MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 MAY 1982

Lebanon

In a statement broadcast by Damascus radio, a Syrian military spokesman confirmed that two Syrian aircraft were hit in a dogfight with Israeli planes over Lebanon. One was downed over Kisrawan after intercepting an Israeli plane reconnoitering the Syrian SAM's in the Al-Biqa' Valley, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. However, Israeli Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan denied that the Israeli aircraft had been overflying the missile sites. Speaking in an IDF radio interview, Eytan said the Syrians had not understood previous Israeli warnings that flights over Lebanon fulfill Israel's legitimate needs and that the Syrians will not prevent Israel from carrying out such flights.

The two Syrian pilots, who had parachuted onto the territory of the Christian Lebanese Front, were subsequently handed over to the Syrian military, according to Voice of Lebanon. In remarks broadcast by the radio, the front's military commander, Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, said that since his forces have now twice returned Syrian pilots to their command, the Syrians should respond by releasing Lebanese youths who have been held in Syrian prisons for 5 years. The Lebanese Front will contact the Syrians to discuss the subject, he said.

Syria

Arrival of Ceausescu, Arkhipov — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu arrived in Damascus on an official visit at the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad, Damascus radio reported. The radio said official talks began a few hours later. In a subsequent report, the radio noted the arrival in Damascus of Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is on a 3-day visit to Syria. Arkhipov, who is heading a USSR delegation, later held talks with a Syrian delegation headed by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus television reported. The talks focused on the international situation and bilateral relations, the television said.

Al-Asad Speech — The Arabs are facing increasing U.S. pressure to accept the "Zionist and colonialist invasion" in the region as a means of imposing U.S. hegemony, President al-Asad declared in a speech carried by Damascus radio. Speaking at a dinner held in honor of Romanian President Ceausescu, Al-Asad contended that the United States is trying to bring the region under U.S. military and economic control by surrounding it with U.S. bases and military forces. He said the United States is gradually becoming one of the direct parties in the Arab-Israeli dispute through its strategic cooperation agreement with Israel and by its efforts to impose the Camp David strategy on some Arab countries. While giving all kinds of assistance to Israel at the expense of Arab territories, the United States offers the Arab states only vague promises and ambiguous talk about its efforts for peace in the region, Al-Asad asserted.

Israel

Begin on Autonomy Talks, Iraqi Reactor -- The autonomy negotiations will take place in Jerusalem, Cairo and Washington -- "in that order," Prime Minister Menahem Begin said in remarks reported by the Jerusalem POST. If someone tries to boycott Jerusalem, Jerusalem will boycott him, and if someone tries to pressure us, we will pressure back, Begin added. According to Jerusalem radio, Begin also disclosed that Israel decided to destroy Iraq's nuclear reactor because the Iraqis had prepared three atomic bombs which could have killed 600,000 Israelis.

Sharon-Weinberger Talks -- After meeting with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in Washington, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon announced that Weinberger will visit Israel later this year, Jerusalem radio reported. Noting that the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation had not been discussed, Sharon said he had raised three major problems facing Israel: Arab terrorism, the coalition of Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which may obtain U.S. support; and the supply of sophisticated weapons to Arab countries.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iranian artillery fire partially destroyed and set on fire Iraqi oil installations on the west bank of the Shatt al-'Arab, Tehran radio reported. According to an armed forces communique carried by the radio, three Iraqi planes were shot down in the Khorramshahr and Abadan area. The communique also said four Iraqi planes had been shot down on 24 May.

Majlis Speaker's Remarks -- Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned Muslim countries in the region that although Iran has no designs on their territory, it would not forego its rights at any cost, IRNA reported. He emphasized that Iran's greatest right is the overthrow of the Iraqi president.

Mubarak Denial -- In response to questions from foreign journalists, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak denied that Egypt has dispatched troops to Iraq, Cairo radio reported. Declaring that there are no Egyptian troops outside the country, Mubarak said Egypt is only providing ammunition to Iraq. He added, however, that Egypt is following the situation with interest.

Iraqi Radio Commentary -- Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio said in a commentary on the war that the duty of Iraqis is now to prevent the enemy from entering their territory. Claiming that Iraqi withdrawals and changes of position were not due to military defeat or losses but rather were linked to the objectives of the war, the radio said Iraq does not desire to remain in any particular position but seeks the best way to protect its soldiers. Flexibility in military movement, while safegurading Iraq's territory, is an element of strength not weakness, the radio asserted. The commentary also claimed that Syria and Libya encouraged the Iranians to continue the war and provided Iran with military and economic support that has enabled it to continue fighting.

Iraqi Contacts With Jordan, PDRY -- Iraqi President Saddam Husayn praised Jordanian support for Iraq in a cable of congratulations to King Husayn on the occasion of Jordan's National Day, INA reported. Meanwhile, an Iraqi envoy arrived in Aden bearing a message for PDRY leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad dealing with the dangers posed to the region, according to INA.

Afghanistan

Karmal in USSR -- The DRA delegation to the GDR returned to Kabul without President Babrak Karmal, who is staying in the Soviet Union for "medical treatment," Kabul radio's Urdu service reported.

No-Confidence Vote -- A motion of non-confidence was passed Karmal at a recent PDPA meeting in Kabul, the Pakistani paper NAWA-I-WAQT reported on 18 May, citing informed Afghan sources. The paper said the PDPA called for the appointment of Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand to be head of state. It also claimed that Soviet leaders are dissatisfied with Karmal's performance.

Libya

At a meeting with African ambassadors in Tripoli, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi warned that African states that resume relations with Israel will forfeit economic assistance and will be fought economically and politically, JANA reported.

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STEADFASTNESS FRONT ISSUES STATEMENT

JN251539 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 25 May (SANA) -- The meeting of the Political Committee of the Pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front ended here last night. Participating in the meeting were the foreign ministers of the front -- the Syrian, Algerian, Libyan and PDRY foreign ministers -- and a PLO representative. At the conclusion of the meeting a statement was issued, the text of which follows:

The Political Committee of the Pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front held a series of meetings in Algiers on 24 May 1982 and reviewed the Arab situation and developments and various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The committee also discussed the situation in the region, particularly the Iraq-Iran war, and the plot aimed at expanding Camp David through reconciliation with the Egyptian regime, which is still committed to Camp David and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. While discussing these issues, the committee noted the following:

1. The U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance constitutes the main threat to the Arab nation at this stage. This alliance is aimed at implementing the strategic detente project to consolidate the aggressive U.S. presence and to further imperialist interests and monopolies against the independence, sovereignty and progress of the people of the region.

2. The current Arab situation constitutes a negative phenomenon that is not in the interets of the Arab nation. This situation resulted from noncommitment to the Arab summit resolutions pertaining to boycotting the Egyptian regime. There must be no battles away from our main enemy, the imperialist-Zionist enemy.

3. The acceptance and expansion of Camp David represents the direct aim of the United States and the Zionist enemy in the Arab region. Relations and dealings with the Egyptian regime and the calls for reconciliation while it is still committed to the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, are the first steps of involving other Arab parties within a capitulatory settlement to complete the links of Camp David at the expense of Arab rights, particularly the Palestinian cause.

4. Attempts to escalate the Iraq-Iran war and to urge some Arab states to become involved will only serve imperialist and Zionist interests because it will lead to widening Arab differences and engaging the Arabs in side battles to divert their attention from the Arab-Israeli dispute, the main contradiction of the entire region.

5. Backed by the United States, the Zionist enemy is attempting to obtain the maximum benefit possible from the Camp David agreements that isolated Egypt from the Arab struggle, and exploits Arab differences and the deteriorating situation to impose autonomy in the occupied Palestinian territories, annexes the Golan Heights and continues to threaten Lebanon and commit aggression against it.

6. Despite the U.S.-Zionist onslaught, the masses in the Palestinian territories and Golan are valiantly confronting the Israeli enemy schemes, suppressive measures and savage practices, particularly its aggression against Al-Aqsa Mosque and the holy places; acts of annexation and expropriation of land and establishment of settlements; attempts to liquidate the patriotic leaders in the occupied territories; imposing collective punishment against the people and forging the project of civil administration, the first link in applying the autonomy.

The enemy is facing an impasse in the occupied territories thanks to the national unity of the people and their determination to offer sacrifices for their freedom and national independence.

7. The repeated Israeli aggressions against the Lebanese people and the Palestinian refugee camps constitute a link in an expansionist scheme aimed at occupying a part of south Lebanon, liquidating the Palestinian Revolution, harming Lebanon's unity and sovereignty and forcing it to accept a separate peace. The Lebanese masses, under the leadership of their national forces and in close alliance with Syrian and the Palestinian Revolution, are firmly confronting this scheme that threatens national security and Arab destiny.

In view of this Arab situation, an effective Arab solidarity is a demand of major importance. This solidarity must be based on confronting the Zionist-U.S. plot in the region. The task of promoting the role of the Pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front is also very important in order to enable the front to realize the aims for which it was established. In view of this, the Political Committee adopted a number of resolutions among which are the following:

1. Calling on Arab states to maintain their adherence to the Baghdad summit resolutions and, consequently, to continue boycotting the Egyptian regime until it becomes totally free of the bonds of the Camp David agreements and the Egyptian-Israeli agreement; urging the Egyptian nationalist and other Arab powers to face all attenpts intended to lift the boycot of the Egyptian regime because in the first place such attempts aim at further entrenching the Camp David scheme in Egypt and spreading it further to the entire Arab region.

2. Resisting the Zionist-U.S. design of establishing a strategic bloc in the region and fiercely confronting all forms of the imperialist presence, particularly the military presence now being seen in aggressive military agreements with some of the region's states such as Egypt, Morocco, Somalia, Sudan and Oman, and offering land, sea and air facilities to help the United States carry out its plans of surveillance in the interests of the strategic U.S.-Israeli alliance.

3. Greeting the popular uprising in the occupied territories and reconfirming the commitment of offering all types of financial and political aid to the people inside the occupied land to help them continue and further escalate their uprising against the occupation and its designs; urging all Arab Islamic and international bodies to give priority to the issues of the uprising, the explusion of the occupying Zionists and the exposure of the crimes committed against holy places, particularly against the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque.

4. Stressing that the comprehensive confrontation with the Zionist enemy is the way to restore the Arab nation's rights, and that all settlement projects currently taking place under the occupation and in light of the current Arab and international conditions, will only lead the Arabs to more concessions and negligence.

5. The committee voices its deep aprehension over the continued war in the Western Sahara and asserts that this war must be ended by implementing the OAU resolutions, particularly those of the Nairobi meeting and the other resolutions issued by the international community regarding the Saharan people's right to self-determination.

6. Rejecting all attempts to expand the Iraqi-Iran war through the involvement of other parties such as the Egyptian regime. Such attempts aim at finding the justification for the Egyptian regime's return to the Arab ranks and at spreading the Camp David circle and, accordingly, dragging the entire region into a bloody war and minor struggles which serve the interests of the Zionist enemy and the designs of imperialism.

7. Condemning the EEC Political Committee's meeting in occupied Jerusalem and considering this meeting as hostile to Arab interests and contradicting the UN resolutions on Jerusalem.

8. Denouncing Zaire's decision to resume relations with the Zionist enemy, thus violating the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement's resolutions and the principles of Arab-African cooperation. The committee also denounces Costa Rica's decision to transfer its embassy to occupied Jerusalem and urges all Arab countries to sever all forms of cooperation with these two countries.

9. Asserting that the Islamic revolution in Iran, which has always expressed support for Arab causes and the Palestinian issue, is a friendly revolution and that it is necessary to further consolidate relations with this revolution.

10. Appreciating the friendly stand of the socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, the nonaligned, the African and Islamic states as well as other democratic powers and their struggle against imperialist schemes which increase tension and incite aggression, and their efforts to spread just peace and to ensure the peoples' rights to determine their future.

11. Listing the issue of developing the Pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and forming its organs and permanent departments on the agenda of the front's coming summit conference in order to further strengthen its role in the Arab nation's battle against the Zionist and imperialist enemy and to foil all attempts to misdirect the Arab struggle from its main objects by engaging it in minor battles.

AL-KHALIJ: FES SUMMIT TO RECONVENE IN OCTOBER

GF241156 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 24 May 82 p 1

[Exclusive dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] Arab diplomatic sources have said the postponed Fes summit will reconvene in October following an Arab foreign ministers conference that will be held in Morocco in September.

The sources said this summit will decide on Egypt's return to the Arab ranks. In this regard, the same sources said there are two Arab views on this issue: The first prefers a united decision on Egypt's return and the second sees Arab countries restoring their relations with Egypt unilaterally.

'ARAFAT EXCHANGES MESSAGES WITH SOVIET LEADERS

NC260717 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Apr 82

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday received Soviet ambassador in Beirut Aleksandr Soldatov, who conveyed to him an important message from the Soviet leadership connected with developments of the international situation. Brother Abu 'Ammar gave the Soviet ambassador a message to Soviet leaders.

The brother commander in chief [Yasir 'Arafat] accompanied by Fatah Central Committee member Abu al-Hawl ['Abd al-Hamid Hayil] met with Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, chairman of the Command Council of the independent Nasirite movement Al-Murabitun, and discussed with him the developments of the situation in the Arab region and Lebanese arena in light of the Zionist threats and concentrations along the border of south Lebanon.

'ARAFAT PAYS VISITS TO INDIA, PAKISTAN 21-24 MAY

For Delhi, Karachi, VOP and AFP reports on PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat's activities in New Delhi and Islamabad, including joint statements issued at the end of his visits to both countries, see the India section of the 24 May South Asia DAILY REPORT and the Pakistan section of the 25 May South Asia DAILY REPORT.

GULF AFFAIRS

PAKISTANI NAVAL FLEET TOURING GULF PORTS

NC252006 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Manama, 25 May (AFP) -- A Pakistani fleet of two destroyers and four submarines today began a tour of courtesy visits to several Gulf ports as part of a training cruise, sources here said.

The two destroyers sailed into port Doha, Qatar, early today and will reportedly stay for four days before sailing for the Saudi port of Ad-Dammam.

Two submarines reached Dubai in the United Arab Emirates early today. They will next sail for Abu Dhabi. The two other submarines, attack vessels, were reportedly headed for Muscat, the capital of Oman.

GCC UNDER SECRETARIES TO MEET IN ABU DHABI 14 SEP

GF251110 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 25 May 82 p 3

[Excerpt] The under-secretaries of the ministries of information and culture of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council will meet in Abu Dhabi on September 14, according to Mr 'Abdallah al-Nuways [UAE undersecretary of the Ministry of Information and Culture]. Mr Nuways was quoted by Arabic daily AL-ITTIHAD as saying the AGCC under-secretaries will discuss the problems of media in the AGCC states and the role the press could play in promoting the Arab cause.

GCC OFFICIAL ON NEED FOR ARAB CONFERENCE

LD232006 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Ibrahim as-Subhi, assistant secretary general of the GCC for political affairs, said intensive Arab efforts are being exerted with a view to holding an Arab conference at summit or foreign ministers level to discuss the various developments taking place in the Arab arena, particularly the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement published in Kuwait today, he said the main purpose of these contacts by the GCC foreign ministers, in accordance with the resolutions adopted at their extraordinary meeting in Kuwait last week, was to prevent any escalation of the war and thus leave no pretext for any international intervention that would threaten the region's security and stability. He affirmed that the GCC has succeeded in preventing the expansion of the war between Iraq and Iran into other parts of the strategic Gulf region. The leaders of the GCC member countries have made enormous contributions in order to contain the war. He added that the GCC member countries have been able to tell the world they are capable of protecting the region's security and stability and that, despite its ferocity, this war has not threatened the security and stability of the region and petroleum has been flowing normally.

As to the Gulf countries' attitude toward the recent military escalation on the front between Iraq and Iran, As-Subhi said the GCC member countries are now working in the political field and have not yet touched on the military field.

He expressed his hope the war could be contained and a peaceful solution found with the cooperation of the countries concerned. He affirmed the GCC member countries' support for any country in the region exposed to any threat, be it from Iran or elsewhere. This, he said, does not mean the region's countries have formed a bloc or a threat directed against anyone. The GCC constitutes a force working for the region's peace, security and stability.

He disclosed that the GCC member countries will be holding a meeting in Bahrain on 8 June to discuss a draft unified security agreement.

On the subject of Egypt's return to the Arab ranks, As-Subhi said the decision on Egypt's return should be an Arab decision because the decision to boycott Egypt was adopted by the Arabs at a summit conference because of its signing of the Camp David accords.

KUWAIT

SPOKESMAN REPORTS ON YAR'S AL-'IRYANI VISIT

LD251108 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The minister of commerce and industry and acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq, made the following press statement on the visit of His Excellency Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, prime minister of the fraternal YAR, to the State of Kuwait:

At the invitation of his highness the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah as-Salim as-Sabah, His Excellency Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, YAR prime minister, accompanied by a delegation comprising ministers and senior officials, paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait between 24 and 25 May 1982. His excellency the guest and his companions were given a very warm and friendly reception expressing the depth of the firm bilateral ties.

His excellency the guest conveyed a message to his highness the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, from his brother, his excellency the president of the YAR and commander in chief of the armed forces, 'Ali 'Abdullah Salih, containing warmest greetings and deep fraternal appreciation to his highness and to the government and people of Kuwait.

During the visit, official talks held between the two sides were characterized by a spirit of friendship and fraternity. The Kuwaiti side at these talks was led by His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah as-Salim as-Sabah, while the YAR side was led by His Excellency Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani. The talks were attended by a number of senior officials from both countries.

The talks dealt with the firm and fraternal bilateral relations and ways consolidating them in various spheres, the current situation in the Middle East in general, and issues of common interest.

The two sides expressed their profound satisfaction with the fact that their views are identical on all issues discussed and with the positive results of this visit.

His Excellency Dr Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, YAR prime minister, expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality he and his delegation received during the visit. Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani extended a friendly invitation to his brother, his highness the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, to pay an official visit to the YAR. His highness accepted the invitation with gratitude and promised to pay the visit at the earliest opportunity.

Al-'Iryani Departs 25 May

LD250848 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0730 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 25 May (KUNA) -- YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani concluded his 1-day official visit to Kuwait. He left today for home.

He was seen off by the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'd 'Abdallah as-Sabah, with whom he held talks on bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

INTERIOR MINISTER ON GCC SECURITY MEETING

GF251925 Doha QNA in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 25 May (QNA) -- Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad has stated the GCC committee of experts in security and interior affairs will meet shortly to exchange views and make proposals on the joint security cooperation agreement among the GCC countries in preparation for the interior ministers' council meeting scheduled to be held in Riyadh in October.

In a statement to the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS published today, Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad said: We have made great progress to achieving integral cooperation among the GCC countries, not just on the security level, but on all levels. He stressed that the GCC has accomplished a great deal in the 1 year of its existance thanks to the awareness of GCC leaders of the importance of Gulf cooperation.

The Kuwaiti interior minister called for more intensive work towards Arab solidarity. He said: We look forward to seeing the method of Gulf cooperation applied among all Arab countries.

FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEW ON GCC ANNIVERSARY

LD251234 Kuwait KUNA in English 1106 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 25 May (KUNA) -- Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Tuesday said that the Gulf Cooperation Council is a joint regional endeavour which aims at enhancing inter-cooperation to promote the member states' economic, social and security levels.

In an interview with Radio Abu Dhabi, Shaykh as-Sabah asserted that the council was a normal outcome of the region's historic, social, economic and strategic position.

The interview, which was broadcast by Radio Kuwait earlier today, marked the first anniversary of the creation of the GCC. "The establishment of the Gulf Council was not coincidental, but rather the result of several years of hard labour," the Kuwaiti official noted. He added that "such cooperation has become a dire necessity to all peoples in the region, at the present stage more than at any time in the past."

The GCC groups Kuwait together with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE and Oman.

The foreign minister pointed out that the natural solidarity binding the Arab Gulf countries was crystalized in that body. Mobilization of all potentialities in the establishment of that council made the Arab region able to advance to new development horizons of benefit to all Arabs in general and to its peoples in particular, he added.

Shaykh as-Sabah noted that the GCC's most prominent political feats were shifting form unilateral policies into group work in addition to resorting to joint endeavour and declaring the members' abidance by the Arab League Charter, the UN doctrines, soldiarity with the Islamic world and non-aligned policy.

The GCC has affirmed that the region's security and stability is the sole responsiblity of its own littoral states, the Kuwaiti minister stressed, adding the council has further stipulated the right of the member countries to defend their security, their complete rejection of foreign intervention and keeping the region aloof from international rivalry. The deputy premier highlighted the council's stance on attaining a peaceful settlement to the Middle East crisis based on realization of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The Gulf assembly has achieved important economic accomplishment topped by conclusion of the unified economic agreement which came in implementation of the members' belief in the inevitability of economic and social integration, Shaykh as-Sabah said.

DEFENSE MINISTER GRANTS STATEMENT TO AL-MADINAH

GF221505 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 18 May 82 p 1

[Statement by Kuwaiti Defense Minister Salim Sabah as-Salim to AL-MADINAH correspondent Kamil Hazir in Kuwait -- date not given]

[Text] Kuwait has announced its readiness to confront any Iranian or other foreign threat to it or the region, according to a statement by Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah as-Salim. He said: We have heard of the Iranian threats, which we consider seriously and do not ignore. The Kuwaiti Army, officers and soliders are ready to defend Kuwait against any threat, just as they are ready to defend the region. Kuwait will react to any aggression against any of the GCC states.

Shaykh Salim said efforts are continuing to end the Arab and Muslim bloodshed. Kuwait has affirmed and is still affirming through organizations and conferences that ending the war is one of its most important tasks. He said: Kuwait will not allow any force whatever to put its troops on our soil without our consent. We will fight and allow it to enter only over our dead bodies.

Referring to facilities offered by some Gulf states to the Eastern and Western camps, he said agreements have been signed by these states. He affirmed that Kuwait will not allow any foreign troops in its territory.

With regard to Arab-Egyptian relations, the Kuwaiti defense minister, in a speech to the graduation ceremony of the 13th batch of officers from the military college, said the Arabs severed relations with As-Sadat's policy but not with the Egyptian people. He added: In our view, the reasons that led to severing relations still exist, but there has been some change in the climate. We have to give Egyptian President Husni Mubarak a chance. Anyway, any comments will be made at the right time.

OMAN

MINISTER ON QABUS VISIT TO EGYPT, JORDAN

GF231611 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 23 May 82 p 3

[Interview granted by Omani Information and Youth Affairs Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas to AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ chief editor Ahmad Kamal in Muscat -- date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: It has been said there were differences in views during the GCC emergency ministerial conference held in Kuwait and that these differences caused its postponement. Is this true?

Answer: This is absolutely untrue. Differences were not behind the postponement of the conference.

Question: Did the meetings which began after this emergency meeting cover the Syrian position toward the Iraqi-Iranian war?

Answer: I do not like to get into details about what follows these meetings. It is natural that all Arab positions are subject to discussion among the GCC countries. It is also natural that all Arab problems are discussed by the GCC countries and dealt with according to their views. I do not want to go into detail but I do assert that the GCC countries are always hopeful of strengthening Arab solidarity and keeping the Gulf region away from the arena of international disputes.

Question: His Majesty Sultan Qabus recently visited Cairo. Was the subject of Egyptian-Arab relations discussed during his visit?

Answer: You know that Oman maintained good relations with Egypt out of the belief that the Arab estrangement from Egypt did not serve Arab interests or Arab solidarity. His Majesty Sultan Qabus called on all Arab countries to restore normal relations with Egypt since it is a natural part of the Arab nation. Besides, with its culture and population, it constitutes one-third of the Arab nation and one-third of Arab expertise. Undoubtedly, we cannot achieve Arab solidarity in Egypt's absence from the Arab arena. Oman is seeking the views of its brothers on means of laying sound and reasonable bases for the normalization of Egyptian-Arab relations in order to achieve Arab solidarity, without which the Arab nation cannot confront the challenges confronting it on all sides.

Question: His Majesty Sultan Qabus' visit to Jordan was sudden. It came directly after his visit to Cairo. Was this visit related, for instance, to the restoration of Egyptian-Jordanian relations?

Answer: His Majesty Sultan Qabus' visit to Jordan was a private one. He undertook this visit to his brother His Majesty King Husayn within the framework of exchanging private and official visits. It is natural that when two leaders meet -- at a time when the Arab nation faces a difficult situation and Arab solidarity is lacking -- they share their common fears and coordinate stands on fateful issues. As for Egyptian-Jordanian relations, they are a bilateral affair on which we have no right to speak.

Question: It was realized that statements by Egyptian officials began to reveal more support for Iraq following the visit of His Majesty Sultan Qabus to Cairo. Was the Iraqi-Iranian war discussed by his majesty and President Husni Mubarak?

Answer: It is natural that all issues of common interest should be discussed between Egypt and Oman. As for Egypt's supporting or not supporting this side or that, its stand stems from the convictions of the Egyptian leadership. The stands of this leadership in the Arab arena and modern Egyptian history acknowledge Egypt's position on Arab issues. On these basic stands, Egypt has always been in the forefront to confront challenges to the Arab nation as a whole. Egypt's position toward the Iraq-Iran war is a private one. Oman's position on the Iraq-Iran war is the announced position of the GCC.

SAUDI ARABIA

CROWN PRINCE FAHD ON ARAB-AFRICAN RELATIONS

LD242244 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2135 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 24 May (SPA) -- During its evening session today under His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Council of Ministers discussed the situation in the Arabian Gulf region, Arab-African relations and the kingdom's decision to sever diplomatic relations with Zaire.

Information Minister Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said His Royal Highness Prince Fahd stressed that all are concerned that the Gulf region enjoys peace and security so that its peoples can enjoy prosperity and stability, and that the region remains far removed from international conflicts.

His royal highness then spoke about Arab-African relations and the kingdom's decision to sever diplomatic relations with the Government of Zaire. He stressed that in its relations with African states, the kingdom proceeds from fraternity, mutual understanding and cooperation for the good of the peoples and countries.

He pointed out that Arab countries have long stood with African countries in their just causes, explaining that the decision to sever relations with Zaire was taken after its decision to resume relations with the Zionist enemy and to open an embassy in occupied Jerusalem, a decision which was against the OAU resolution and that of the Arab-African summit on 7 March [words indistinct]. He stressed that the kingdom and Arab countries are anxious to continue relations with African countries on the basis of positive mutual understanding and cooperation.

INFORMATION MINISTER MARKS FIRST GCC ANNIVERSARY

LD251350 Riyadh SPA in English 1220 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 25 May (SPA) -- Saudi newspapers today stressed that the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) had succeeded in realising the Gulf people's aspirations and ambitions.

Commenting on today's celebrations marking the first anniversary of the GCC, AR-RIYADH published here said the council's establishment had proved "its effectiveness to interpret the people's dream for progress and development and to promote coordination and cooperation in all spheres among the Gulf states."

"The achievements of the newly-born council have surpassed those of other organisations, which have so many years of experience behind them. The achievements of the council are due to the fact that it has a different set-up and goals" the paper added.

The GCC is made up of Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman.

In a statement to SPA the Saudi Arabian Information Minister Dr. Muhammad 'Abdul Yamani said today's celebrations reflected the council's to [as received] realise the Gulf's aspirations and ensure constructive cooperation for the region's progress and development. He hailed attentions given by King Khalid to the council's activities and Prince Fahd's patronage of the celebrations and said this demonstrated the leaders' keenness to realise full cooperation among the Gulf states. "The council has set a good example to realise solidarity at the Arab level," he added.

Dr. Yamani said "The current events in the Islamic and Arab nation have once again made it clear that there is no substitute for solidarity to defend Arab causes." He reaffirmed that the council was "not directed against anyone but was primarily formed to safeguard the joint interests of the Gulf states and serve better their people."

The information minister said "The current conditions in the region have forced the Gulf leaders to think seriously on creating an entity (GCC) to look after the region's interests and safeguard them." He lauded the council's accomplishments during a short span of time and the Gulf leaders' adoption of a unified stand on Islamic, Arab and international issues, specially those pertaining to the Gulf region.

He also praised the existing fruitful cooperation between member states of the council in the fields of oil, agriculture, industry, economy, finance, education, culture and information.

Prince Fahd, Bisharah Remarks

LD252048 Riyadh SPA in English 1938 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 25 May (SPA) -- Saudi Crown Prince and Deputy Premier Fahd stressed tonight that the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) sought the interest of the whole Arab and Islamic nation. Commenting on the BCC's first anniversary, the crown prince said in a statement that the progress made by the GCC sprang from the Gulf leaders' "determination to ensure continued success for this great organisation."

Crown Prince Fahd had earlier patronized celebrations held here to mark the occasion.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and Kuwait.

Addressing a host of personalities attending the celebrations, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah noted that the council's activities were not confined to specific fields but covered all domains, economic, political and defence. He said the establishment of the GCC is in fact in response to the people's "insistence."

The GCC's first achievement was the unified economic agreement in view of the importance of such a step in realising unity of the region, he added. Mr Bisharah said that the Gulf was at present more stable than it had been before the council's formation "thanks to the collective treatment followed by member states and their determination to shoulder the responsibilities of security and stability in the region."

Mr Bisharah said the council had always sought to heal Arab rifts, remove Arab differences and put an end to tension. The council had also assumed its duties towards Islamic states and developing countries, he added.

He expressed appreciation to King Khalid, Crown Prince Fahd and other Saudi leaders "for the constant backing they have been providing in all fields." The same applied to all member states, he said.

In an earlier statement on the occasion, Saudi Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abdull Yamani siad today's celebrations relfected the council's efforts to realise the Gulf's aspirations. Dr Yamani also affirmed that the council was not directed against anyone but sought to safeguard the joint interests of the Gulf states and serve better their people.

Saudi newspapers for their part also stressed that the council [words indistinct] in realising the people's aspirations and ambitions and warding off "all political and military threats."

UAE

BODY ASSAILS EUROPEAN COUNCIL JERUSALEM MEETING

GF251932 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The National Federal Council has assailed the meeting of the Political Committee of the European Council in Jerusalem and has described it as a provocation lacking wisdom and balance, and contradicts international legal requirements.

In a communique issued today, the council stated that the meeting of the committee in Jerusalem constitutes support for continuous Zionist aggressions against Arab territories and an acknowledgement of Zionist expansionist aims. The council confirmed that any resolutions issued by the European Political Committee will be considered invalid and illegal, considering that the United Nations and all UN-affiliated organizations assailed from the start the Israeli enemy's decision to make Jerusalem Israel's eternal capital. The National Federal Council called on the parliaments of peace-loving nations to refute the committee's behavior and admit its illegitimacy because it disturbs the good atmosphere that is supposed to prevail in Arab-European relations and raises doubts about the reality of the announced intentions of some friendly countries. The text of the National Federal Council's communique is as follows:

"At this time the world has begun to understand the truth and dimensions of the Middle East problem and to seek a comprehensive and just solution to it -- a solution that should be based on recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, establishing their independent state on national soil and full Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied after the 1967 aggressions, including Jerusalem.

The world was surprised that the Political Committee of the European Council would convene in Jerusalem, which the Israeli enemy considered its eternal capital by virtue of a decision declared invalid and illegal by all world countries and condemned by the resolutions of international organizations, headed by the United Nations. Holding the European Council Political Committee meetings in Jerusalem constitutes a support for the continuous aggressions against Arab territories and a recognition of the hostile and expansionist intentions of the Israeli enemy. The UAE National Federal Council, while denouncing the behavior of the Political Committee of the European Council, considers it a provocative act lacking wisdom, poise and courtesy, disregarding international legal requirements and branding the committee's resolutions issued in these meetings as invalid and illegal. The council calls on the parliaments of peace-loving people and the parliaments participating in the International Parliamentary Federation to condemn this behavior and assert its illegitimacy, particularly because it disturbs the good atmosphere prevailing in Arab-European relations and raises doubts about the reality of the announced intentions of some friends."

PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD RECEIVES IRAQI MESSAGE

EA252227 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 25 May 82

[Summary] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad this evening received a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn delivered by Hikmat Ibrahim, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member. The brother secretary general pointed out that Democratic Yemen opposed the Iraq-Iran war from the beginning and still believes in the need to resolve the conflict by peaceful means in a way that will ensure the rights of the two disputing parties.

YAR

PRIME MINISTER AL-'IRYANI RETURNS 25 MAY

JN251358 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani and his delegation returned to San'a' at noon today after visiting fraternal Qatar and Kuwait. He conveyed messages from brother leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of armed forces, to his brothers, Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, and discussed bilateral relations with them.

Dr 'Iryani and his delegation also held discussions with both His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and minister of defense, and His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister. The discussions centered on the various aspects of cooperation between our country and Qatar and Kuwait as well as the important issues concerning the people of the region and the Arab nation and ways to restore Arab solidarity. On arrival at the airport, Prime Minister al-'Iryani was welcomed by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, and several members of the Cabinet and the Consultative Council.

MUBARAK DENIES TROOPS DISPATCHED TO IRAQ

NC251624 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Replying to questions from foreign correspondents, President Husni Mubarak today denied Egypt has dispatched troops to Iraq.

During his tour of a number of factories in Hulwan, the president said: No Egyptian troops are outside their country. We only supply Iraq with ammunition. At the same time, we are following the situation with interest. President Mubarak expressed the hope that the Iraq-Iran war will end as soon as possible.

MUBARAK ISSUES STATEMENT ON AFRICA DAY 25 MAY

NC251715 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 May (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak issued a statement today on Africa Day, marking the 19th anniversary of the establishment of the OAU. The following is the text of the statement, which was delivered on behalf of President Husni Mubarak by Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Ambassador 'Umran ash-Shafi'i:

Every year on this day the Arab Republic of Egypt, together with states of the African Continent, celebrates Africa Day. This is the day on which the OAU was born 19 years ago, when the heads of state and government of 32 African nations signed this organization's founding charter. This great event signalled the beginning of a new and decisive era in the history of the peoples of our great continent and the course of its valiant struggle for freedom, independence and unity and for working to achieve prosperity and progress.

Today, the OAU includes 50 member states, representing one-third of the international community and playing a prominent and influential role in international and regional affairs and in tackling all political and economic problems in a manner consistent with the interests of its peoples and all peoples of the world. The Arab Republic of Egypt is eager to participate with the peoples of the fraternal continent in celebrating this day in view of the unity of aim and destiny linking us and the peoples of the fraternal African Continent.

Today, while we celebrate Africa Day and despite our admiration for the OAU's achievements for the liberation of the continent's peoples, we must take a sober look at and consider the present African situation and the problems and challenges facing our continent and together study ways to tackle them and to find the most appropriate urgent solutions to them. Perhaps the gravest danger facing our continent today more than at any previous time is the danger of internal division, which threatens the unity and entity of the OAU and even its existence as an organization, which embodies the aspirations of the continent's peoples and the aims it is seeking to achieve. We see no other way of confronting this danger but to uphold the unity and independence of the continent and to keep it away from the big-power conflict and the hegemony policy followed by some of the big powers or from interference in its internal affairs, and to faithfully adhere to the provisions of the organization's charter and return to legitimacy by honoring the resolutions issued by the conferences of African heads of state and government, in their capacity as the highest body of the organization. In this respect, the Arab Republic of Egypt welcomes every positive and constructive effort and move made by the African states aimed at safeguarding the unity of the organization and sparing it the danger of division among its members.

The Arab Republic of Egypt has played and is still fully prepared to play a role conducive to achieving this noble goal.

It is, indeed, exerting efforts, on the basis of its responsibilities and role in Africa to contain the crisis through which the organization is currently passing and to narrow the differences of views among its members in an effort to overcome this serious ordeal it is facing and to safeguard its unity and solidity.

It is extremely regrettable that while we are now living at the end of the 20th century, there are peoples in the African Continent who have yet to attain their independence. Some regimes are still practicing the policy of racial discrimination and apartheid. Despite these peoples' struggle and the financial and moral support they receive from the international community, represented in its international organization, and from the African peoples, represented in the OAU, and despite the many resolutions issued by each of them -- to the point of imposing a total boycott on the racist regime in South Africa -- these peoples have not yet been liberated and are still suffering from these hated racist policies, and the racist regime in South Africa has not abided by the decision of international and African public opinion and has not stopped exercising these policies. This prompts us to provide all the means of support and aid to the Namibian people, under the leadership of SWAPO, in their valiant struggle for their country's independence and to continue the struggle against the racist regime in South Africa to achieve freedom, equality and dignity for its people.

Proceeding from its historic responsibility toward the peoples of the African Continent and its adherence to its principled stand of supporting all African liberation movements, the Arab Republic of Egypt wishes to reaffirm on this occasion that it will continue, as it has always done, to support the struggle of these liberation movements and to offer material and military support to them until their peoples attain their freedom and independence.

One of the achievements accomplished through the OAU this year was the formation of African forces for the maintenance of security and peace in Chad following the withdrawal of the foreign forces. We hope the OAU will continue to play the role it has begun for the establishment of stability and peace in an African state which has suffered from foreign interference in its internal affairs and it will be able to bring about national conciliation among the disputing parties there, so the fraternal Chadian people may have the opportunity to rebuild their national economy and devote their efforts to economic and social development in a suitable atmosphere.

Perhaps it is a good omen that our celebration of Africa Day this year coincides with the liberation of the remaining part of the Sinai following the completion of the Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory on 25 April, thus ending Israel's occupation of an African state's territory and restoring Egyptian land to Egypt, free, precious and dear. The Arab Republic of Egypt -- government and people -- wishes on this occasion to express its most profound gratitude and appreciation to the states of the African Continent and the OAU for their complete support of and positive cooperation with Egypt's struggle in the peace process -- support and cooperation deserving credit for Egypt's restoration of all its territories. While reemphasizing its commitment to continue with this process until the Palestinian people regain all their legitimate national rights and a lasting, comprehensive and just peace prevails in the Middle East region, Egypt appeals to all the fraternal African states to continue their support of this process, so peace and stability may be achieved.

The deepening of African solidarity is one of the most important fundamentals and basic requirements of Egyptian foreign policy. In its belief that this solidarity can be achieved by confronting the economic challenges facing the continent's states and peoples, Egypt is working for strengthening the various forms of cooepration in this field, whether at the level of bilateral relations with the African states, coordination between the continent's states and other developing countries in the North-South dialogue, or the deepening of cooperation among the continent's states themselves and with the developing states in the South-South dialogue.

On the basis of our sober understanding of the importance of pushing the wheel of economic development in the African Continent and of assisting its states in their efforts to achieve this goal, Egypt has established the Egyptian Fund for Technical Cooperation With the African states. Through this fund Egypt provides educational and vocational scholarships to the African people and provides Egyptian technical expertise to the African states in various spheres. This is in addition to its consistent and energetic attempts to promote economic relations between it and its fraternal African states for the benefit and welfare of the continent's peoples.

The Arab Republic of Egypt, while participating with its fraternal African states in celebrating Africa Day, hopes that when next year's celebration takes place all forms of racial discrimination in the African Continent will have been eliminated, the rest of the African peoples will have achieved their independence and African states will have made great strides toward unity, economic progress and prosperity for their peoples and the OAU will have become stronger and more united.

Long live Africa free and independent.

MUBARAK CONGRATULATES NUMAYRI ON MAY REVOLUTION

NC251759 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 May (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak has sent a cable of congratulations to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri on the anniversary of the glorious May revolution. The text of the cable follows:

It pleases me to send Your Excellency, in my name and on behalf of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt, most sincere and heartfelt congratulations on the anniversary of the glorious May Revolution, with my best wishes for your good health and happiness and for your fraternal people's constant progress and advancement. I am confident that, as the days go by, the ties of fraternity and fruitful cooperation between our two fraternal countries will develop and strengthen for their mutual benefit, for serving the causes of our nation and our African Continent and for bolstering the movement of positive neutrality and nonalignment, so we may participate in the establishment of an international community in which the values of right, justice and peace will prevail.

'SECRET' MUBARAK MESSAGE TO KING HUSAYN REPORTED

PM250927 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 24-30 May 82 p 19

[Fu'ad Na'im report: "Arab Moderates Working on Minimum Requirements for Egypt's Return"]

[Text] Amman -- Jordan and other "moderate" Arab states are preparing a joint Arab charter spelling out the minimum principles Egypt must commit itself to before rejoining the Arab ranks. This charter will not be presented as a list of conditions for Cairo to accept, but rather as a document containing certain principles that Mubarak's Egypt has already approved on several occasions.

AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI learned that, in a secret and private message to King Husayn, President Mubarak outlined Egypt's position on the general relevant issues. The following are the main points of the message:

1. The Palestine question: Egypt promises not to make any unilateral decisions pertaining to the future of the Palestinian people, and particularly the people of the occupied Arab territories. This specifically applies to the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations on autonomy for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It also pledges not to support the Israeli concept of autonomy.

President Mubarak believes the possible resumption of the negotiations must, in Egypt's view, result in a joint statement laying down principles of a settlement acceptable to the other Arabs, particularly Jordan and the PLO.

2. The future of Jerusalem: Egypt promises not to accept the Israeli viewpoint on this issue. In this respect Mubarak has demonstrated he favors a solution "guaranteeing the rights of the three religions in the city."

It appears the internationalization of the two Jewish and Arab sectors of the city is a possibility. It should be recalled King Husayn has mentioned this possibility, which is also supported by the Vatican.

3. Joint defense: Egypt promises to respect the provisions of the joint defense pacts signed by the Arab states, especially in relation to foreign aggression. This point is obviously the most difficult because of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Finally, it was learned this charter was the main topic on the agenda of the talks held between King Husayn and Sultan Qabus in Al-'Aqabah last week.

DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAQ-IRAN WAR ANALYZED

NC251810 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 82

[News analysis by radio commentator Layla Zaydan]

[Text] Iraq announced today its withdrawal from Khorramshahr, the capital of the Iranian province of Khuzestan, thus ending its domination of this province, which its forces invaded in the first days of the Gulf war in September 1980. This withdrawal could be the beginning of the end of this war. However, this to a great extent depends on the future plans of the Iranian regime.

Iraq has accused Iran of planning to invade its territory and the first aim of Iraq from the beginning of the war was to prevent this. Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has announced he is prepared to withdraw his forces from Iran in return for guarantees that Iran will not attack Iraqi territory. The Iraqi president thus expressed fears prevailing in the Gulf area regarding the Iranian regime's endeavor to export its revolution to that area and to replace the regimes there with a Shi'ite regime similar to Iran's.

The Iranian religious leader, Ayatollah Khomeyni, has actually warned these states against supporting Iraq and declared that the Islamic government in Iran will do its duty if these states take a hostile stand against Iran.

The recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war have created a new reality in the Gulf area that could have far-reaching effects in the future.

GHALI ADDRESSES EC BODY, MEETS UK MINISTER HURD

NC252158 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has emphasized Egypt intends to benefit from regaining the Sinai by giving a new momentum to the peace process.

In a statement he delivered at the outset of the meetings of the council for cooperation between Egypt and the European Community in Brussels today, Dr Ghali explained that Egypt is not monopolizing the peace process nor does it have an authorization from the Palestinian people. All Egypt seeks to achieve in the autonomy talks is to set up a transitional system ensuring full autonomy for the West Bank and Gaza Strip and ending the military occupation government, he said. He added that this transitional entity will have two basic functions: administering the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 and negotiating in the name of the Palestinians on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The minister of state for foreign affairs pointed to the necessity of establishing a dialogue between the PLO and Israel and achieving simultaneous recognition between Israel and the PLO.

Egypt and the European Community today signed a second financial protocol amounting to $400 million, which is to be deposited in the European Investment Bank for financing a number of production projects in Egypt.

Dr Butrus Ghali this evening met with British Minister of State Douglas Hurd, who is attending the meeting of the European Community in Brussels. They discussed the European role in the Middle East peace efforts, the effects of the Iraq-Iran war and the situation in the South Atlantic because of the Falklands crises.

MUHYI AD-DIN VIEWS SINAI DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

NC252024 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din announced at a political rally held in Al-'Arish this afternoon that allocations for the urgent Siani development plan total 140 million pounds. He said President Husni Mubarak is following up the implementation of the development projects, particularly those connecting the Sinai with the Nile Vally and leading to economic and social development in the Sinai.

The prime minister said there are serious studies underway on reopening the coal mines in the (Al-Magharah) area and the manganese mines in Abu Zanimah. He added there is also a 5-year plan to generate electricity in the northern and southern Sinai. There is also a plan for health care, including the establishment of a hospital in Rafah costing 300,000 pounds.

The prime minister also discussed the information plan, saying the projects to bring television transmissions to the northern Siani will cost 6 million pounds. He said the education plan includes building of 14 schools at all levels and building a teachers college. This is in addition to allocations for roads and telecommunications.

The rally was attended by the ministers of education, reconstruction, information and interior and tourism, the governor of the northern Sinai and the popular, political and executive leaders in the governorate.

ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI ARRIVES 25 MAY

NC251412 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 4-day visit to Egypt. During this visit he will meet with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

The Romanian minister was met at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Egyptian-Romanian talks will begin tomorrow at noon. The Egyptian side in the talks will be headed by Kamal Hasan 'Ali and the Romanian side by the Romanian foreign minister. The talks will deal with international issues of mutual interest, primarily the developments in the Middle East after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, the role Romania can play to promote peace efforts and the situation in the Gulf area in light of the Iraqi-Iranian war. The two sides will also discuss means of strengthening Egyptian-Romanian relations in the various spheres.

Meets With Mubarak

NC260847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 May (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a message from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. The message was conveyed by Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei when he met with the president of the republic this morning. The meeting at Al-'Urubah Palace was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian Ambassador to Romania Dr Wafiq Husni and Romanian Ambassador in Cairo Ion Iosefide.

The Romanian foreign minister arrived in Cairo yesterday for a 4-day visit.

Comments After Meeting

NC260933 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0852 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 May (MENA) -- Following his meeting with President Husni Mubarak this morning, Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei said they discussed several issues pertaining to the development of friendly relations between the two countries and peoples.

Andrei added President Mubarak expressed a desire to develop friendly relations between the two countries in all fields to serve the interests of the two fraternal countries and peoples. Cooperation between the two countries on issues related to peace, national independence and negotiated political solutions to all international disputes was discussed.

The Romanian foreign minister further said the discussions also dealt with ways of achieving peace in the Middle East and elsewhere in the world. Asked if the question of a visit by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu to Cairo was discussed, the minister said this issue was not raised.

MUBARAK MEETS ECONOMIC GROUP MINISTERS 26 MAY

NC261101 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 May (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with the economic group ministers this morning. The meeting at Al-'Urubah Palace was attended by Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary and Director of the President's Office for Political and Foreign Affairs Dr Usamah al-Baz.

The economic group includes Deputy Prime Minister for Economic and Financial Affairs Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim, Finance Minister Dr Salih Hamid, Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri and Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Dr Fu'ad Hashim Awad.

Following the approximately 1-1/2 hour meeting, Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah Ibrahim said the meeting discussed the general framework of the new budget preparatory to presenting it to the National Democratic Party's parliamentary body and subsequently to the People's Assembly next week.

Answering a question on reports that a group of Kuwaiti investors, businessmen and economists will arrive in Cairo shortly, Ibrahim said they are expected to arrive in mid-June. On the investments of the state's general budget, Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri said the public sector's investments will reach 4.3 billion pounds this year, an increase of 600 million pounds over last year. The private sector's investments will reach 1.3 billion pounds, an increase of 200 million pounds over last year.

AIR FORCE RECEIVES CANADIAN TRANSPORT PLANES

NC221919 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 May 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 22 May (MENA) -- Egypt received today the first consignment of Canadian Buffalo military transport planes which the armed forces contracted within the framework of diversifying the sources of arms to strengthen the military air transport fleet.

The air force held a ceremony on this occasion in Al-Mazah air base today attended by chief of staff of the armed forces Lt Gen 'Abd Rab an-Nabi Hafiz, air force commander Maj Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi, the representative of the Canadian aircraft company, Canadian ambassador in Cairo Robert Elliott, members of the People's Assembly Defense and Security Committee, and senior air force commanders.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief of staff said: Our receipt of the first consignment of Buffalo transport planes for our air force aims at raising the planning and performance standard of this force. Lieutenant General Hafiz noted that U.S. F-16 fighter planes, Chinook helicopters and Alpha Jet advanced training planes have joined our air force this year, giving the air force the strength commensurate with its main role as a striking and deterrent force of the armed forces. He affirmed that Egyptian pilots and technicians have been capable of absorbing the operation of these planes, with their modern and complex systems, in record time.

Concluding his speech, he said obtaining the Buffalo planes represents an achievement within the framework of the policy of diversifying the sources of arms with the aim of liberating our strategy from any foreign pressures that might influence our decision.

AL-AHALI SCORES DEFENSE MINISTER ABU GHAZALAH

PM241103 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 19 May 82 p 10

[Philip Jallab article: "Marshal Abu Ghazalah and Nonalignment"]

[Text] We have a special respect for anyone who has fired a shot at the enemy. It is from this premise that we discuss Marshal Abu Ghazalah who was the 2d Army's artillery commander in the 1973 war.

Marshal Abu Ghazalah was one of those who has talked about politics and strategy since assuming the post of chief of staff of the Egyptian armed forces and up to his becoming minister of defense and war production. But his serious words are perplexing and raise questions. No sooner does he begin talking about Egyptian or Arab strategic security than we find him talking about the best means to protect U.S. strategy and strengthen NATO defenses.

This is not a confusion of matters or a play on words because the marshal, judging from his statements and declarations, believes the security of Egypt and the Arab homeland is an integral part of U.S. and NATO security. According to what some papers publish, the latest being MAY, the difference between the U.S. viewpoint and the marshal's viewpoint is summed up in one point only: The marshal believes the Rapid Deployment Force [RDF] is largely a token force because one U.S. division is not enough to halt any Soviet attack. Therefore, the marshal suggests the United States provide the necessary military equipment for the area and a joint Arab force be established in order to confront the Soviet danger.

The marshal justifies his preference for an Egyptian or Arab force on the grounds that an American soldier costs $150,000 a year if he comes to the Middle East, which would burden the U.S. budget. As for the Egyptian soldier, as the marshal says, he costs a mere $1,200 a year, less than one percent of the cost of the American soldier. How cheap!

The marshal otherwise totally agrees with the U.S. strategic objectives. He says, for example, that "the only insurance for the Middle East and Africa is expelling the Soviets from the area." He also warns the United States and the West that "the Soviets' first aim is to regain Egypt, and if Egypt is lost the whole Arab world will fall under the feet of the Soviets; or if the Soviets control Africa, they will control the raw material necessary for aircraft manufacture in the West, and if they were able to stop oil supplies to the West then Europe would be brought to its knees."

Regardless of the fact that Marshal Abu Ghazalah's statements are contrary in form and in substance to the principle and policy of nonalignment which the Egyptian Government officially adopts, of which the most important stipulations are that we should not be part of the strategy of any superpower, be it the United States or the Soviet Union, and that we should not be involved in superpower conflicts, what the marshal has said in this regard has been overtaken by events and developments in East-West relations.

The talk about the aim of controlling Middle East oil and cutting off supplies to the West is no longer a topic of serious discussion in strategic quarters because if the situation between the East and the West develops to such an extent each side has its own missiles that can destroy the oil resources of the other without the need for invasion or attack and without moving one single soldier. But if the situation does not reach this point, then who would want to "drink" his own oil and not export it to the consumer, regardless of the type of government in control of the oil-producing country?

Also, has not work begun on the "deal of 20th century" -- the $40-billion deal to build a gas pipeline from the Soviet Union to Western Europe in order to supply West Germany, France and others with "communist" energy? Did not the United States officially announce that some U.S. uranium enrichment is taking place in the Soviet Union?

As for the story of the collapse of the whole Arab world "if Egypt is lost," or "if the Soviets regained it," the idea behind it is to say Egypt belonged to the Soviets and then they lost it. Why did not the whole Arab world collapse when Egypt was a "Soviet colony" and before the USSR lost it?

Liberating the whole world from Soviet presence could be the "sacred task" of the United States and NATO, although the general trend in the West is, unfortunately, to "waver" in performing this task and to replace it by trade and economic exchange and by joint projects and everything that comes under detente with the Soviets.

RAMADAN VISITS CAMP, MEETS ARAB VOLUNTEERS

JN251832 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and commander of the Popular Army, today visited the Arab vanguard training camp which has Arab volunteers from Egypt, Somalia Palestine, Djibouti, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morroco — fighters inaddition to Iraqi fighters. Ramadan inspected the camp, watching Arab volunteers being trained with all kinds of weapons in preparation for leaving for the war front to have the honor of participating in Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah battle against the rancorous Iranian enemy which is supported by imperialism, Zionism and some treasonous rulers who claim to be Arabs such as Hafiz al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi.

The Popular Army commander made observations and issued instructions on increasing the Arab volunteers' combat ability by teaching all training courses during the training period at camp. He urged the volunteers to learn about their weapons and to clean them after each battle, because this will enable them to carry out their pan-Arab role of struggle with greater efficiency. He said that precise aim, careful use of ammunition in the battlefield and alertness during performance of duties have an effective role in reducing losses among the ranks of the Popular Army and in inflicting heavy losses on the aggressive Iranian enemy forces -- referring to the valor of the Popular Army during recent battles when they inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian enemy because of good training, military discipline, and knowledge of the art of battle and the use of arms.

Ramadan said: This good group from the masses of our nation in the various parts of our Arab homeland has come to take part in the Arab nation's just battle against the rancorous Iranian enemy and to be a great example of the readiness of the Arab masses to carry out their historic and pan-Arab responsibility if they are they encouraged to do so. Their participation in our battle constitutes a bold response to the traitors in Syria and Libya who have revealed their open cooperation with the Iranian enemy against our struggling country which is known for its pan-Arab stands on our Arab nation's causes in Palestine and other usurped Arab territories.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Ramadan stressed the importance of allowing the fighters to play an effective role in implementing combat methods and mobilization exercises in order to increase their combat abilities and develop their military preparedness which qualifies them to defend our pan-Arab and legitimate rights.

Ramadan was accompanied during the visit by a number of Popular Army general command officials.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 772

JN251658 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1604 GMT 25 May 82

[Communique No 722 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces have always thought that their basic task beyond Iraq's borders is the destruction of the greatest possible number of enemy forces in order to prevent it from continuing its open, aggressive and expansionist aims against the Iraqi people and territory. Our forces consider that the most important aspect of any battle is the final outcome. During the battles of the last 20 months, and during this battle in particular, our forces inflicted heavy losses on the Iranian enemy which has led to the destruction of its future military, economic and political powers.

We are certain that victory, which has accompanied Iraq from the beginning of the battle up to today, will always be on our side. Over the past 2 years Iraq has been able to confront and destroy the ill-winds brought about by Khomeyni clique allied to Zionism and all the enemies of the Arabs in order to subjugate the Arab nation and subject it to the Zionist influence and the ambitions of the Tehran rulers. The brave Iraqi fighters, who have fought over the past 2 years like heroes, are capable, God willing, of engaging the enemy with force and inflicting heavy losses on it, destroying its dreams and ambitions and forcing it to respect the security and rights of Iraq and the Arab nation.

The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. At dawn today, enemy forces attempted to attack part of the Muhammad ibn al-Qasim forces north of the Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] area. Our forces valiantly confronted them and clashed with them, using various weapons. A fierce battle ensued in which the enemy suffered heavy casualties. The known killed numbered 2,711, many prisoners were taken and a large quantity of serviceable weapons were seized.

2. Our air force continued to raid enemy positions and concentrations in the Al-Muhammarah area, scoring effective hits against its personnel, armor and equipment. All our planes returned safely to base.

3. Our army helicopters launched successful attacks against army concentrations, equipment and armor in the Al-Muhammarah area scoring direct and effective hits and destroying 28 tanks, 25 armored personnel carriers, 15 large vehicles carrying troops and 7 excavators. All our helicopters returned safely to base.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 2,711 killed; many prisoners taken; 28 tanks, 25 armored personnel carriers, 15 large vehicles carrying troops and 7 excavators destroyed; and a large quantity of various serviceable weapons seized.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 May 1982

PRESS COMMENTS ON KHORRAMSHAHR WITHDRAWAL

JN260846 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA) -- Newspapers published here today stress that the firebrand of victory is still kindled and shining in the eyes of the Iraqis, whose resoluteness is relentless in defending Iraq's territory and safeguarding Iraq's security, independence and the honor of its women.

In today's editorials the papers say the Iraqis have been and still are victorious and that the question of occupying land has never been Iraq's target.

ATH-THAWRAH says the Iraqis have fought the enemy honorably, valiantly and capably with the aim of inflicting enormous losses throughout the battles that raged for over 20 months. They fought to destroy the enemy's war machine, weaken its economic and political capabilities, crush its attempts to attain the objectives of its aggression and prevent it from implementing its aggressive scheme, which is aimed against Iraq as well as the rest of the Arab Gulf states and the entire Arab homeland.

It adds: It suffices to say the victorious Iraqi Army should be proud it has prevented the Iranian enemy from reaching Iraq's territory.

It stresses the heroic Iraqi fighters have destroyed the aggressor's power in its territory and inflicted a disgraceful defeat on it.

Concluding, ATH-THAWRAH says: Iraq is determined not to be vanquished and will not allow the enemy to desecrate its holy land. We have managed to foil the wild aggressive plot against our sovereignty, revolution and successful march toward glory and prosperity. It stresses that after 21 months of fierce battles, Iraq is stronger and more able than any time before to fight the enemy, defeat it and destroy its black schemes and dreams.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Iraq's victory is not measured by the size of Iranian territory on which its forces stand but by the size of these forces' success in exposing and foiling Khomeyni's intentions against Iraq and the Arab nation and in destroying the tool that is implementing these wicked intentions as represented by the enemy's war machine.

It stresses that Iraq has succeeded splendidly in achieving those two targets in a manner that guarantees its present and future and satisfies its pride as well as the pride of every honorable Arab. In indicates that the wicked Khomeyni's intentions are no longer unknown to anyone, particularly to the Arabs against whom they were harbored. It adds that these intentions are now more exposed and their danger is well known not only by politicians but also in every corner of Arab streets. This in itself is a great victory.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that Iraq is still powerful; the Iraqi people are still enjoying their dignity and strength; and Iraqi cities are still bustling with people. It wonders what remains of Iran's army, which was considered the fifth strongest army in the world. It also asks where this army is now and what remains of its weapons, equipment, expertise and manpower. It adds: All this has been destroyed and nothing is left of it except troop concentrations sent blindly to the hell of war by Khomeyni where thousands of them are killed in every battle. Where is Iran itself and where is its unity? Iran under war is the scene of conflicts, murder, chaos, a destroyed economy, disrupted institutions and divided society. This is an asset to Iraq and here lies Iraq's victory.

The newspaper AL-'IRAQ says the evacuation of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] was not the end of the war and is not the decisive battle. It adds that this operation is not in itself a victory for the Iranian enemy in any respect whatsoever. It stresses that real victory is represented in reaching the target with the least possible losses and within the framework of effectively destroying the other side.

AL-'IRAQ says: The main targets of Iraqi military efforts were the destruction of the Iranian attacks and the infliction of the heaviest possible material and human losses on the Iranians in order to weaken these attacks.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ON IRANIAN DOMESTIC POLITICS

JN261049 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA) -- In an exclusive report, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH said experts in Iranian affairs have named Col 'Ali Sayyad Shirazi, commander of [Iranian] infantry forces, as a candidate for the leadership of a coup d'etat in Iran.

The paper said Shirazi would put an end to the conflict between the axes of power in Iran and would save the regular army from the folly of military adventures.

Citing experts in Iranian affairs, AL-JUMHURIYAH indicated that the Iranian war machine sustained heavy losses in its regular forces, air force, artillery and rocket units as a result of Khomeyni's adventures. It added it will not be easy to make up for these losses for many years.

AL-JUMHURIYAH said currently there is strong conflict between two groups. The first group, which is called Al-Maktabiyah, is headed by Mohammad Musa Kho'ini, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Iranian Majlis and assistant to the Majlis speaker. It added this group calls for the exportation of the revolution to the Arab homeland and neighboring countries such as Turkey, Pakistan, the USSR and Afghanistan. This group insists on pursuing the course of aggressive military adventures. The second group, which carries the name of Al-Hojjatiyeh, is headed by President 'Ali Khamene'i. It opposes the first group and calls for establishing a three- or five-member council to succeed Khomeyni. This group comprises Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The paper said a third group headed by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani is taking an opportunist stand between the first two groups.

HADDAD OPENS PALESTINIAN ENGINEERS CONFERENCE

JN251928 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpts] Under the patronage of leader President Saddam Husayn, the third conference of the General Federation of Palestinian Engineers was opened in Baghdad today by Na'im Haddad, member of the National Command of the Ba'th Party. The conference will last 4 days.

In a speech on the occasion, Haddad greeted the conference on behalf of President Saddam Husayn and the leadership of the party and revolution. He said: Your choice of Baghdad as the venue of your third conference at this particular phase of struggle is of great pan-Arab significance and shows the depth of the solidarity of struggle between the great 17-30 July revolution and the Palestinian revolution for liberation.

Haddad said: Palestine's fate has transformed it into a bridgehead for imperialist and Zionist ambitions in the Arab homeland which aim at perpetuating partition and backwardness. Similarly, Iraq has always been a target for the expansionist aims of Persian rulers. There is no difference between the shah of Iran, who was an agent of imperialism and Zionism, and the present Iranian rulers except in name and slogans.

Referring to the immoral attitude of the Syrian regime, Haddad said: The Syrian regime closed its border with Iraq and stopped Iraqi oil from passing through Syrian territory in an attempt to pressure Iraq economically and weaken its military ability in the interest of the mean Iranian enemy.

Haddad said: We are aware the path of confronting the imperialist and capitulatory forces, the independent and nonaligned policy and the establishment of an independent pan-Arab and distinctive experiment is not allowed in a world of big power blocs and polarization. However, our people and leadership's insistence on following this free and independent path has exposed it to great hardships and difficulties.

Comrade Abu al-Adib [Salim az-Za'nun], representative of the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution, then made a speech in which he conveyed greetings from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi people. He spoke about the struggle of the Palestinian fighters and their steadfastness in facing the Zionist enemy.

UN ENVOY PROTESTS COSTA RICA'S EMBASSY TRANSFER

JN251243 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] United Nations -- Salah 'Umar al-'Ali, Iraq's permanent UN envoy and head of the Islamic group, submitted a message to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday to protest Costa Rica's decision to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to the occupied city of Jerusalem.

In his message, the Iraqi envoy said Costa Rica's decision is a blatant violation of the UN Security Council's resolution and a flagrant defiance of the Islamic world.

PRESIDENTIAL ENVOYS RETURN FROM AFRICAN TOURS

Fadil Returns 20 May

JN210933 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0715 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) -- Muhammad Fadil, minister of public works and housing, returned to Baghdad last night following a tour of the People's Republic of Congo, the People's Republic of Angola and Gabon.

Fadil handed messages to the leaders of those states from President Saddam Husayn inviting them to attend the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned heads of state and government in Baghdad next September.

The minister said the three leaders conveyed their greetings to President Saddam Husayn and their wishes for the success of the conference, saying the nonaligned states are pinning great hopes on it.

Az-Zibari Returns 25 May

JN260950 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0948 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA) -- Minister of State Arshad az-Zibari returned to Baghdad last night following a tour in which he visited Kenya, the Comoro Islands, Seychelles, Uganda and Ethiopia.

In a statement to INA, Az-Zibari said he handed messages from President Saddam Husayn to the heads of those states, inviting them to attend the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned heads of state and government to be held in Baghdad next September. He said the heads of these states had asserted their readiness to attend and participate in the conference at its set date.

Az-Zibari pointed out that he briefed the heads of the states on the dimensions of the aggressive war imposed on Iraq and Iraq's stand, which calls for the solution of this dispute with Iran through peaceful means in a manner that guarantees our legitimate rights.

RAMADAN RECEIVES FINNISH PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE

JN242000 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 24 May 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 24 May (INA) -- Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, has received a written message from the Finnish prime minister dealing with bilateral relations. The message was conveyed by former Finnish Minister of Commerce and Industry Ulf Sundqvist during his meeting with Ramadan here tonight.

MAHMUD DEPARTS ON TOUR OF LATIN AMERICA

JN260952 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Baghdad, 26 May (INA) -- 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, minister of irrigation and envoy of President Saddam Husayn to a number of Latin American states, left Baghdad this morning.

The minister told INA he is carrying messages from the president inviting the heads of these states to attend the seventh nonaligned summit conference in Baghdad next September.

CORRECTION TO DENIAL OF PRESENCE OF ARAB FORCES

The following correction to the item entitled "Source Denies Presence of Regular Arab Forces," published in the 24 May Middle East and Africa Daily Report on page E 5, is supplied from a retranslation of the INA item: On page E 5, substitute the following passage for the fourth paragraph: Nevertheless, Iraq, which has shouldered its full pan-Arab responsibilities in defending Arab land and rights and which has adhered in letter and spirit to the collective Arab defense pact, must necessarily consider the readiness of any Arab country to participate with regular or other forces in confronting the Iranian aggression as falling within the framework of faith in the common fate of the Arab nation, because the Iranian aggression against Iraq is one against the Arab land and man, not only in Iraq but also in the entire Arab homeland.

NCC SPEAKER 'ARAR RECEIVED BY USSR'S SHITIKOV

JN260942 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Moscow -- Shitikov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium [title as heard], praised the developing relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union.

Shitikov was speaking at the Kremlin yesterday when he received Sulayman 'Arar, National Consultative Council [NCC] speaker and head of the Jordanian official and popular delegation currently visiting the Soviet Union on the occasion of Jordanian-USSR friendship week.

'Arar and Shitikov expressed the hope that these relations will continue in the interest of the two friendly peoples and countries.

Shitikov said Jordanian-USSR relations date back 20 years, during which they have developed well and reached a high, strong level. He expressed appreciation for His Majesty King Husayn's visits to the USSR, particularly last year's visit during which issues of bilateral cooperation were discussed in an atmosphere of joint cooperation and understanding. He also expressed the USSR's support for Arab sovereignty over occupied Arab lands, foremost of which is the city of Jerusalem, and for giving the Palestinian people the right to self-determination on their lands.

'Arar replied by conveying His Majesty King Husayn's greetings to the Soviet leaders and said: The visit of the Jordanian official and popular delegation to the USSR points out the depth of friendship between the two countries and peoples, especially in these critical political circumstances in the Middle East as a result of Israel's continuous aggressions against the Arab nation, violation of the principles of a just peace and denial of the Palestinian people's rights.

'Arar praised the existing friendly bilateral relations, which are based on mutual respect, friendship, affection and conformity of viewpoints regarding all submitted issues. He also praised the USSR's support for the Arab nation's struggle to deter Israeli aggression during all the fateful stands the Palestinian question has passed through and during the Arab nation's struggle to achieve an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory.

FRENCH AMBASSADOR MEETS SARKIS, MAKES STATEMENT

NC261035 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis met with French Ambassador Paul Marc henry at 0930 today.

Following the meeting, the ambassador answered reporters' questions saying: I came to thank President Ilyas Sarkis for the warm feelings he expressed following the terrible tragedy at the French Embassy on Monday. We discussed the general security situation, and I conveyed to President Sarkis the embassy's desire to hold special prayers tonight for the innocent persons who were killed in the explosion.

Henry added: I believe the presidency will be represented on this occasion. Regrettably, our discussion today was mainly devoted to this tragedy. I thank the president for the precautionary measures that have been taken around French establishments. We have noticed that the methods adopted in such attacks cannot be countered by normal security measures. We must confront this increasingly dangerous threat of terrorism, which appears to have a new character and is directed against France.

SYRIAN PILOTS RESCUED; AL-JUMAYYIL STATEMENT

NC251904 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpts] Israel has announced and Damascus has confirmed that two Syrian MiG's were downed in a dogfight in Lebanese airspace this afternoon. The two pilots bailed out and landed on the outskirts of Al-Qulay'ah.

One of the planes crashed in the valley near the town of Al-Qulay'ah in Kasrawan; the second plane crashed in the vicinity of Dayr Mar Ilyas-Shwayya. One pilot, Capt Anwar Fadil 'Immari, parachuted into the outskirts of the town of Al-Qulay'at. The other pilot, first Lt Nidal Shiha, parachuted into (Kfar Sibyan) farm. Both pilots were removed to Al-Haj Hospital in 'Ashqut for first aid. They were then moved to the military hospital of the Lebanese forces in Beirut. Captain 'Immari sustained light bruises. First Lieutenant Shiha suffered contusions in the chest and fractures and was put under observation in the intensive care room at 1730. Captain 'Immari has expressed satisfaction and pleasure with the good treatment he is receiving from Lebanese youths.

At 1430 Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil inspected the sites where the pilots had parachuted and then visited the two pilots in 'Ashqut. He made a statement to journalists, saying: This is the second time we have enountered such a situation and carried out our humanitarian duties in our areas. Thus far, we have not received any communications from the Syrian command to discuss the question of handing over the two officers and to remind it of the youths held in Syrian prisons and to learn when these youths will return. Naturally, contacts will now begin between us and the Syrian command to discuss this subject. We are prepared to do everything to help these two young men return to their country.

He said: I thank Al-Haj Hospital personnel for the first aid they administered and the humanitarian work they carried out. I again ask the Syrian command to return the youths who have been held in Syrian prisons for 5 years. These are not conditions, but war has its rules and military issues have their decorum which dictate the return of the youths in Syria, especially since this is the second time, as I have said, we have encountered such a situation and handed over those who have parachuted into our areas. Shaykh Bashir concluded his statement by saying: It is time the Syrian Government began thinking about returning the Lebanese youths it is holding.

Pilots Handed Over to Syrians

NC251958 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1927 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Dear listeners, we have a report from the editorial staff, which appears to be urgent. [The announcer asks a person named William on the other end of the telephone line to present his report. He says:]

On behalf of Lebanese Forces Commander Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, Chief of Staff of the Lebanese Forces (Fadi Fran) this very minute handed over the two Syrian officers who had parachuted into the outskirts of Kasrawan and in the vicinity of Dayr Mar Ilyas-Shwayya. The handing-over ceremony was attended by Johnny 'Abduh, director of intelligence in the Lebanese Army. The Syrian pilots were handed over to three Syrian officers. The two pilots had been transferred from the Lebanese Forces' military hospital to Hotel Dieu [Hospital] in Lebanese Army ambulances. We will give our listeners more details when we receive them.

'FREE LEBANON' OFFERS TO PULL TROOPS FROM IRAN

NC240852 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 May 82

[24 May statement by a "Free Lebanon" military spokesman -- read by announcer]

[Text] Iraq knows the balance of power in its war with Iran started to tip in Iran's favor immediately after volunteers from Free Lebanon started fighting against it. Iraq also knows most of the attackers in the battles are our volunteers. Since our volunteers have taken part in recovering most of the occupied Iranian territories and are now about to occupy Iraqi territory, we have decided to grant Iraq a last chance to salvage itself, based on the following conditions:

1. Iraq should tell the followers of its ideologies and its supporters in Lebanon to refrain from carrying out any aggressions against Free lebanon in particular and Lebanon and the Lebanese in general.

2. It should also tell them to direct their military activities against the swindlers [the Palestinians] and the Syrians in occupied Lebanon. We, in return, pledge the following:

1. to refrain from sending volunteers from Free Lebanon to Iran.

2. To withdraw our volunteers from Iran to Free Lebanon, hoping, in the meantime, that the Iraqis realize the importance of this offer before it is too late, and give us their response in 5 days from today.

NATIONAL BLOC'S IDDIH INTERVIEWED ON PRESIDENCY

GF221935 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 22 May 82 p 12

[Interview granted by Raymond Iddih, leader of the Lebanese National Bloc, to AL-KHALIJ Paris correspondent Hind 'Amr in Paris -- date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-KHALIJ: What are your conditions [for serving as president]?

Iddih: First, a complete Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon in accordance with the Lebanese-Israeli cease-fire agreement and in compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions 425, 426, 501; second, Syrian withdrawal from all Lebanese territories; third, replacing the Syrian forces with multinational forces from Arab and European countries without any Syrian presence whatsoever.

AL-KHALIJ: These conditions are almost impossible in the present situation.

Iddih: I will explain the reasons to you. I cannot act as president unless these conditions are fulfilled.

As long as the Israeli Army remains in southern Lebanon, either in Sa'd Haddad's ministate or elsewhere, it can reach the Litani and attack it at any time. There is a military gap extending 9 km along the Litani between the villages of Dayr Mimas and Balat in the south where there are no UN forces. The Israeli army can enter them via flank attacks. Israel can make use of this gap without any resistance by the UN forces stationed in some parts of southern Lebanon. Eventually the president would be forced to accept the Israeli presence as long as he is militarily unable to counter this eventuality. Therefore, it is necessary for the Israeli army to withdraw beyond the border and for UN forces to be stationed along the border of the southern strip in full accordance with the UN resolutions.

If Syrian forces retain control of two-thirds of Lebanon, as is the case now, they will be able to act as they please in the area they control. They will be able to commit illegal acts, such as aggression against others, while the president -- who is the head of these Syrian forces which were formerly called the Arab Deterrent Forces -- is unable to counter them. Going back to the big trick called the "deterrent forces," we notice that they initially included 28,000 Syrian soldiers and 2,000 soldiers from the rest of the participating Arab countries: 500 each from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Sudan. Reviewing the history of Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon, we find that other Arab troops participating in them were models of discipline and commitment, but regrettably they returned to their countries and left the whole arena to the Syrians alone. Let us go back to the basic subject: the conditions. With the Syrian forces present, the president can do nothing. It has become clear that Lebanon's first man has no power, because power is in the hands of others. He cannot take any step without the green light from the Syrian Government. The president can do nothing. That is why the Israeli Army must withdraw from the south and Syrian forces must withdraw from the other areas so the new president can restore Lebanon's sovereignty and unity in the future.

AL-KHALIJ: What is your opinion on the Iraqi-Iranian war and its results?

Iddih: Through the press and my analysis as a politician, the situation is this: Israel is fully aiding Iran. It has supplied its aircraft and tanks with spare parts. I say this is from my press reading. At the same time Syria is an ally of Iran and is aiding it. It is strange Syria is against Israel and Israel is against Syria. Now Syria is protecting itself with the UN forces in the Golan and it only fights Israel in Lebanese airspace. As I said, Syria is in dispute with Iraq. It is said it is the Syrians who blew up the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut and killed the ambassador. If we take a quick look at the Arab countries' situation, we find that some of them may be practially, but not legally, allied -- that is, if there are no formal alliances -- with the United States, while others are allied with the Soviet Union. An example of the latter is the 1980 treaty between Syria and the Soviet Union that was said to be educational. Therefore, the Arab camp is divided. It is regrettable Arab countries have agreed Lebanon is to be only a battlefield between the Arabs and the enemy, Israel.

There is a major war going on between Iran and Iraq. Who will be victorious? Arab countries must work for Iraq's victory, because it is a member of the Arab League. I am surprised Syria and Libya want Iran -- which is not an Arab country -- to achieve victory. Whoever wants to understand the situation must read what is written. As long as this Arab situation remains, it is not strange Israel will confront us using the tactic "divide and rule." It wants Iraq to be defeated and to balkanize the entire region and create sectarian ministates in order to justify the existence of the racist Zionist state. The Arabs are rendering Israel's mission easy by striking each other without "any thanks" from Israel.

TWO SYRIAN PLANES 'HIT' IN DOGFIGHT OVER LEBANON

JN251227 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] A military spokesman has issued the following statement: At 1255 [1055 GMT] today, 25 May 1982, a patrol of our aircraft engaged in a dogfight with Israeli enemy planes over Lebanese territory. Two of our aircraft were hit in this dogfight.

ROMANIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS 25 MAY

JN251126 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] President Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, arrived in Damascus at noon today on an official and cordial visit to Syria at the invitation of President Hafiz al-Asad. President Hafiz al-Asad and senior party and state officials were at the head of those who received the Romanian president at Damascus International Airport.

Official Talks Begin

JN251647 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Official talks between President Hafiz al-Asad and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu began at the presidential palace at 1700 today. The talks were attended on the Syrian Arab side by Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs; Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; and Ahytham Barakat, Syrian ambassador in Romania.

On the Romanian side, the talks were attended by Georghe Oprea, first deputy prime minister of the Romanian Council of Ministers; Aurel Duma, minister secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Vasile Pungan, minister secretary of state and presidential adviser; and the Romanian ambassador in Damascus.

Al-Asad Banquet Speech

JN252050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 May 82

["Text" of President Hafiz al-Asad's speech at a dinner in honor of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu in Damascus on 25 May -- read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed President Nicolae Ceausescu, dear Romanian friends, gentlemen: It gives me great pleasure to have this opportunity to welcome again our great guest Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Council of State of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and his delegation to Damascus on behalf of our party, people and myself.

During the past years, many bonds of friendship and cooperation have been established between the Syrian Arab Republic and the Socialist Republic of Romania. The periodic meetings my dear friend President Ceausescu and I have successively held in Damascus and Bucharest have had an effective impact in strengthening bilateral relations and expanding their scope. Our objective is the mutual benefit of our two countries, and sincerity remains a guideline for the two sides in implementing the agreements concluded between our two parties and governments in all fields.

I am fully confident that President Ceausescu's current visit to Damascus will, as all his previous visits, contribute to consolidating bilateral relations. This visit also represents a new opportunity for exchanging views on all matters and issues of mutual interest. It is natural that bilateral relations and the explosive situation in our region should receive our fullest attention during our talks. We are satisfied with the development of our bilateral relations, the sound implementation of existing agreements and the two parties' concern for broadening the scope of cooperation between Syria and Romania.

With regard to the situation in the region, I would be saying nothing new if I said it is a very grave and explosive situation, particularly since many complications have been added to it that increase the threat posed to security and peace in the region and the world at large. Since it emerged, this situation has been fraught with danger. However, this situation is now more serious than at any time before. We in the Arab homeland, in addition to the Zionist and colonialist invasion with all its objectives for expansion, are now facing increasing insistence by the United States that we accept this invasion and its objectives as a means of imposing imperialist U.S. hegemony on the region and subjugating it to U.S. military and economic control by establishing and encircling the region with U.S. bases and military forces and by imposing U.S. strategy on the countries in the region through the Camp David accords.

While we are confronting this scheme, we find ourselves faced with a large-scale campaign, whose objective is to distort historical and geographic facts, and faced with complete scorn for international laws, conventions, norms and resolutions. We also find ourselves facing a double standard when assessing and dealing with short-term issues theatening international peace. Otherwise, how can one explain the U.S. stands toward Israel's hostile decision to annex the Golan and Jerusalem, and Israel's oppressive and repressive measures in the occupied Arab territories? How can we explain the U.S. stand toward the recurring Israeli aggression against our innocent Palestinian and Lebanese people in Lebanon? How can one explain the United States' recurring use of its veto at the UN Security Council to prevent the adoption of any equitable measure, whose objective will be to deter Israel's aggression and greed for expansion?

Judging by its stands in our region, it is clear that the United States wants to cancel the UN role and resolutions and impose itself as a substitute for the United Nations and its resolutions. It is making itself a direct enemy of the Arab nation despite its large interests, which are an important factor that should require it to take a stand commensurate with right and justice. As a result of its stands, we find that the United States is gradually shifting to one of the direct parties in the Israeli-Arab dispute through its connection with Israel by a strategic cooperation agreement and by its desperate attempts to break up Arab ranks and force some Arab regimes to take the Camp David path and impose on them the Camp David strategy, which is hostile to the Arab nation's interests.

While offering all kinds of support and backing to Israel despite the latter's insistance on expanding at the expense of the Arab territories, the United States only offers the Arab States obscure promises and ambiguous talk about its efforts for peace in the region. We have received only aggravating and increasing harm from these promises and this talk.

You know our position is clear. We have repeatedly stated it to the whole world. We want peace that will stop aggression and restore to our Arab nation its occupied territories and to the Palestinian Arab people their usurped rights, particularly their right to establish their independent state on their national soil. We believe the United Nations is the correct place to find a just solution and that the UN resolutions on all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict will form a basis for this solution.

Israel's intransigence and the U.S. bias in its favor will not make us despair. We will continue working to realize a just peace, which in our view is a noble target worthy of sincere efforts. At the same time, we are determined to follow various forms of struggle in order to liberate our usurped rights and fully restore usurped Arab rights. In this struggle, for which we are pooling all our resources, we are confident that the masses of our Arab nation stand by us. We also trust the peace and justice-loving people in the world who stand beside us in our just struggle.

Your Excellency President Nicolae Ceausescu: The hotbeds of tension in the world are increasing, and the serious issues threatening international peace and security are difficult to resolve. The arms race continues in a manner that threatens humanity with great dangers. Many people in the world are still suffering from oppression, poverty and backwardness. Some of these people are threatened by starvation because of the continued existence of evils that should not be allowed as we approach the end of the 20th century. Some of these evils are the various forms of racism and the unjust international economic order, which leads to the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer, and the monopoly by a few states of technological knowledge. Therefore, we support efforts aimed at solving the disarmament problem and at finding a new international economic order that realizes justice and equality among all peoples of the world. We will use our resources to uproot abhorred racism everywhere in the world.

We welcome you again as dear friends in a country that holds you in great esteem and harbors friendly feelings toward the Romanian people. Through you, we would like to send sincere greetings to the Romanian people. We wish you and your companions a good visit in our country.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincerest wishes for your good health and happiness and to express my heartfelt wishes to you companions. I express to the Romanian people my sincere wishes for continued progress and prosperity. Let Syrian-Romanian friendship always be strong.

Ceausescu Dinner Speech

JN260703 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 26 May 82

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad hosted a dinner at Ad-Dimashqiyah Hall last night in honor of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. In a speech on this occasion, President Ceausescu expressed his pleasure at visiting Syria and meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad. He said: Our visit to Syria is a new expression of the existing strong relations between our two parties, countries and peoples. It is also an expression of the joint desire to continuously develop our friendship and cooperation in the interest of our two peoples and world peace.

The Romanian president reaffirmed Romania's firm support for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the settlement of the Palestinian people's cause in accordance with their right to self-determination and establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their legitimate and sole representative.

The Romanian president added: In order to achieve this goal, we believe it is essential to work for the convocation of an international conference for peace under the sponsorship of the United Nations and with the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO.

President Ceausescu added: The present international situation can lead to the destruction of humanity. We must exert our utmost efforts to defend man's right to freedom and life. He stressed that the large-scale manifestations of peace currently existing in the world are an obvious expression of the peoples' desire to put an end to the arms race, prevent wars and pseudowars and live in peace. The Romanian president said it is necessary for us to work and struggle to abolish backwardness and establish a new world economic order. He added: Dividing the world into rich and poor states is merely the outcome of colonialist policy and domination.

President Ceausescu said: What is particularly required is the accomplishment of an effective unity between the small and medium states and between the nonaligned and developing states for the sake of establishing a new world economic order. The United Nations must play a more effective role in defending the sovereignty and independence of states and in defending international security, peace and stability.

SOVIET OFFICIAL ARKHIPOV ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN251709 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Damascus at 1400 today on a 3-day visit to Syria for talks with Syrian officials. He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; the Soviet ambassador in Damascus; and Soviet Embassy officials.

Meets With Khaddam

JN251930 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The first session of talks between a Syrian delegation headed by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and a USSR delegation headed by Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was held at the Foreign Ministry at 1830 today. The meeting was attended by Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of staff of the army and the armed forces; Dr Salim Yasin, minister of economy and foreign trade; the Soviet ambassador in Damascus and members of both delegations.

The discussion focused on the current international situation and bilateral relations.

TRADE TALKS WITH IRAN RESUME IN DAMASCUS

JN251715 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] A second round of talks between the Syrian and Iranian delegations was held today at the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade. The Syrian Arab side was headed by Dr 'Ammar Jammal, assistant minister of economy and foreign trade, while the Iranian side was headed by Ghanimifard, assistant Iranian trade minister. The two sides discussed trade relations between Syria and Iran and ways of promoting them.

EYTAN INTERVIEWED ON DOWNING OF TWO SYRIAN MIG'S

TA251547 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1535 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Two Syrian aircraft were downed by Israeli Air Force planes this afternoon. The chief of staff, Refa'el Eytan, has replied to journalists' questions on this issue.

[Begin recording] [Eytan] We said something and apparently they did not understand what we said.

[Unidentified correspondent] Meaning?

[Answer] Meaning that flights over Lebanon fulfill the legitimate needs of the State of Israel and they will not prevent us from carrying out these flights.

[Question] Do you believe an escalation will occur along the northern border as a result of the downing of the two Syrian aircraft?

[Answer] No. After all, once we shot down more aircraft than this and that did not result in any escalation.

[Question] Do you believe the Syrians will again and again remain silent?

[Answer] It is not "again and again." Incidents have been taking place since 1979. We must insist on what is ours, on our rights and carry out our obligations.

[Question] (?The operations) over Lebanon will continue as usual?

[Answer] Certainly.

[Question] There have been reports that our aircraft were, as it were, flying over the Syrian missile deployment.

[Answer] No, that is not true. [end recording]

BEGIN SAYS TALKS MUST RESUME IN JERUSALEM 'FIRST'

TA260855 Jerusalem POST in English 26 May 82 p 1

[Report by Jeffrey Heller]

[Excerpts] Ramat Gan -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin, setting a new condition yesterday for the resumption of Palestinian autonomy talks, demanded that the negotiations reconvene in Jerusalem first.

"These negotiations will take place in the capitals of the three nations that are signatories of the Camp David accords. That means: in Jerusalem, in Cairo, and in Washington -- in that order." He said: "If someone tries to boycott Jerusalem, Jerusalem will boycott him, and if someone tries to pressure us, we will pressure back."

It was the first time an Israeli official not only rejected Egypt's position that the talks not be held in Jerusalem, but also set a precondition that the first session must take place in the capital.

EGYPTIAN DIPLOMAT REJECTS JERUSALEM AS TALKS SITE

TA251609 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] A senior counselor at the Egyptian Embassy in Israel, Dr Ahmad Jum'ah, said today that contacts between Israel and Egypt will also in the future be held in Jerusalem -- except for the autonomy talks. The latter is an extraordinary issue and we will not agree to hold the talks in Jerusalem, Jum'ah said. Our correspondent Sha'ul Stav heard the Egyptian diplomat who spoke at the Economic Club in Jerusalem.

[Begin recording] [Stav] Dr Jum'ah emphasized that normalization talks on issues of trade, transportation and communications as well as on other issues will be held in Jerusalem. The Eygptian folklore troupe gave a performance at Binyane Ha'uma in Jerusalem and officials such as Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Dr Butrus Ghali have conducted many meetings with Israeli leaders in Jerusalem. These contacts and talks will also continue in the future. However, the issue of autonomy is different. We will not be able to hold the talks on autonomy in Jerusalem, Jum'ah said.

[Jum'ah -- in English] The second part of the Camp David agreement -- we believe that it includes Jerusalem, because we consider in the exchange of letters between President as-Sadat and Prime Minister Begin and President Carter....

[Stav] Dr Jum'ah says that we believe that the autonomy should also be applied to the inhabitants of east Jerusalem. We have also expressed this view of ours in the exchange of letters between President Carter, Prime Minister Begin and the late President Anwar as-Sadat. When the negotiations refer to Jerusalem itself, we believe that if we conduct the autonomy talks in that city -- given the situation that has been created -- it will contradict the position we have been presenting on this issue.

Referring to Egypt's support for Iraq in its war against Iran, Dr Jum'ah said:

[Jum'ah -- in English] If Khomeynism succeeds in Iran then it will be tempted to try to do something in the Gulf....

[Stav] We are not interested in the results of the war but rather in the expansion of Khomeynism. Ferment has already become noticeable in the Persian Gulf countries and in Saudi Arabia. We want to prevent the expansion of religious fanaticism. [end recording]

EGYPTIAN BORDER TERMINAL AT RAFAH OPENED

TA231452 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] The border terminal on the Egyptian side of Rafah was dedicated this afternoon. The $2.5 million project was built by the Israeli Airport Authority which commissioned 10 subcontractors.

Speaking at the dedication ceremony, the Egyptian deputy minister for Sinai development affairs [title as heard, no name given] expressed the hope that the Rafah border crossing point will become a contact point to mark peace and friendship between the two nations.

The director of the Airport Authority, Ramon Har'el, said the terminal was constructed to handle 600,000 crossings a year.

Our correspondent Eli'ezer Pney-Gil reports at present there is an average of 1,300 crossings each day.

SHARON, WEINBERGER AGREE ON MILITARY PROCUREMENT

TA260558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Let us go now to Washington where the meeting between Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and U.S. Secretary of State Haig ended yesterday. U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger will visit Israel at the end of August or at the beginning of September.

This was concluded in the meeting between Sharon and Weinberger. Sharon held a 6-hour long talk with Weinberger and Haig yesterday. In addition to the visit to Israel it was decided to implement economic clauses concerning U.S. purchases from Israeli military industries. These clauses, our correspondent in Washington Shalom Qital mentions, were suspended about 6 months ago when the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation was suspended.

[Begin recording] [Qital] Within a short while a joint Israeli-U.S. committee will convene to discuss cooperation involving military industries in Israel. The United States will buy equipment in Israel and will make it possible to shift U.S. aid funds into the Israeli economy. Also, the Defense Ministry will be able to spend a certain amount, to be agreed upon later, to buy arms and equipment in Israel and thus not have to spend these dollars in the U.S. market. This is not part of the memorandum of understanding according to the defense minister.

[Sharon] The agreement on this issue does not hint at the resumption of the memorandum of understanding. It is not part of the memorandum; it was agreed to earlier. I could say that this is part of the sanctions imposed on Israel. I can surely tell you here that perhaps the only issue I talked about, except for the other issues mentioned, is the basic question of imposing sanctions. We did not cancel or suspend the memorandum of understanding and therefore did not find it necessary to raise this issue. I did not mention it in even a single word today.

[Qital] The U.S. representatives too did not raise the matter of renewing the memorandum of understanding. The major part of the talks were devoted to the defense minister giving his views on the dangers facing Israel in three spheres: terrorism, the supply of sophisticated arms to Arab countries and the coalition he foresees among Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt which is an anti-Iranian coalition but can ultimately endanger Israel and stability in the Middle East in general. This is Shalom Qital in Washington. [end recording]

FRENCH RADIO BLAMES JERUSALEM FOR EMBASSY BOMBING

TA251957 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Today the state-owned French radio blamed Israeli agents for the explosion that occurred yesterday in the French Embassy in Beirut. According to the French radio correspondent, most circles in Lebanon believe Israeli agents had a hand in the explosion because they want to undermine France's relations with Arab countries. This has been reported by our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus. Eleven people were killed in the explosion and 27 were wounded.

INTENSIVE CONTACTS WITH AFRICAN STATES CONTINUING

TA211127 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 May 82 pp 1, 3

[Report by Gabi Brun and from Kinshasa by Edwin Eytan]

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Gabi Brun reports that intensive contacts with official representatives of friendly African countries are continuing in Jerusalem but that in view of the Arabs' threats there is not much chance at the moment that additional African countries will follow Zaire and resume relations with Israel.

Zairian sources admitted last night, in a talk with our special correspondent in Kinshasa, that the intensity of the Arab reaction has "shaken and shocked" them. According to them, President Mobutu wants to move forward as much as possible his meeting with Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche not only to demonstrate that he is ignoring the Arab threats but also, and primarily, to ascertain that Israel "will keep various promises and commitments to Zaire."

These include an effort to intercede with the U.S. administration so that it will revoke its earlier opposition on everything pertaining to vital aid to Zaire. President Mobutu is convinced that Israel can persuade the United States on this issue due to the influence it enjoys in Washington.

The Mobutu-Kimche meeting will take place at the (Nasala) farm which is run by Israelis. This farm supplies the Kinshasa population with a considerable portion of its food.

PESSIMISM EMERGES ON EXPANDING AFRICAN TIES

TA251054 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 25 May 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] The plan of Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche to meet a senior African official in Zaire has not been realized.

Officially, Kimche left for Zaire in order to dedicate the building of Israel's embassy in Kinshasa but in fact he was scheduled to meet a senior African official. This official, who holds a senior position in another African country and who enjoys prestige in additional countries in the Black continent, did not turn up for the scheduled meeting.

The failure of Kimche's mission may indicate that at the moment the Arab countries have succeeded in their efforts to foil Israel's intention to expand its diplomatic relations with additional African countries. It has recently been possible to hear in Jerusalem pessimistic assessments regarding the chances of Israel using Zaire's readiness to establish relations with it as a springboard for a political and informational campaign to lead other countries to follow Zairian President Mobutu.

Political circles said yesterday that the view prevalent in many African countries is that the serving of relations with Israel is anachronistic. Nevertheless, fear of the Arab countries is also prevailing. It is difficult to know, the circles said, when the practical relations developing between Israel and the African countries will receive diplomatic expression as well. According to these circles, at least several of the African leaders have developed a revulsion to the Arab pressure which they view as colonialism. The political circles claim these leaders ask themselves why they are forbidden what is allowed to European countries: to maintain diplomatic relations both with Israel and Arab countries.

DAVAR CRITICIZES SHAMIR REMARKS ON AFRICA

TA241522 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 May 82 p 11

[Commentary by Dov Eppel: "Small Success in Zaire"]

[Text] Immediately after the announcement of the renewal of diplomatic relations between Zaire and Israel, the Israeli foreign minister was interviewed by the Voice of Israel about the significance of the event. It is clear that Yitzhaq Shamir was satisfied that finally, after great efforts, the wall of diplomatic isolation built up in Africa around Israel under Arab pressure had been breached. Our foreign minister attributed the renewal of relations between Zaire and Israel to Israeli diplomacy and its exhaustive activity throughout sub-Saharan Africa. That is clear, but the dean of Israeli foreign policy could have been expected to use restrained, diplomatic language when speaking about the future of relations between Jerusalem and Kinshasa.

Instead, Shamir declared that the renewal of diplomatic relations between Israel and Zaire would raise Israel's prestige in all the African and Asian countries and strengthen its status in Western Europe and the United States.

It is clear from his remarks that he expects that other African countries will follow in Zaire's footsteps and the nations outside Africa will also draw positive conclusions from this regarding their relations with Israel. For some reason, Israel's foreign minister ignored the fact that together with the announcement about the renewal of the relations with Israel Mobutu announced that he would continue to recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

In the interview, Shamir hinted that Israel would use its influence on the United States to increase its aid to Zaire. This declaration came right after Mobutu had announced that he would not accept U.S. aid because the U.S. Congress had expressed doubts about the honesty of the policy of the Zairian leaders and had criticized the way in which a considerable part of the aid was being used there.

It was not hard to guess that Mobutu believes in the power of Israeli and Jewish influence on the sources of U.S. aid and he hopes that after establishing relations with Israel, the U.S. attitude toward him and his government will also improve. Whatever the considerations of the president of Zaire, one thing is clear: Israel is not entitled to offer, as a dowry with the renewal of relations with Black Africa, the economic power and political-strategic considerations of a foreign power, even a friendly one, such as the United States. However, beyond all this, the exaggerated excitement that gripped top officials in Israel following Mobutu's announcement was amazing. In addition to the enthusiastic interpretation by the foreign minister, all sorts of interpretations were circulated, with the aid of our media, attributing the "Zaire success" alternately to the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Defense and, of course, to the prime minister, or all of them together.

Jerusalem took advantage of this opportunity to discuss the defense minister's secret trip to Africa last fall, after the signing of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation with the United States. Knowledgeable circles disclosed that Ari'el Sharon had flown to Africa in order to discuss with various leaders of Black African states the aid that Israel is capable of offering them in their fight against Soviet influence in the Black continent. In this context it was pointed out that Israel would work in accordance with the spirit of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation, as the [U.S.] ally for the containment of Soviet expansionism on a global scale.

The wave of enthusiastic interpretations of the renewal of relations with Zaire came when it was learned that the Israeli defense minister, during his visit to the United States, would discuss the cancelation of the suspension of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation and Israel's willingness to put its talents at the disposal of the United States in containing Soviet aggression in Africa.

The declarations and interpretations on this matter came without examining whether the "landlord," that is, the United States, was really interested in taking upon itself the financial burden and political complications involved in open and multifaceted cooperation with Israel in the Black continent, particularly since the United States is casting its eyes at a normalization in its relations with the Soviet Union's allies in Africa, from Angola and Mozambique to Abyssinia. The Jerusalem Foreign Ministry apparently forgot that the United States and the countries of Western Europe have not given up the chance of improving their relations with the pro-Soviet African countries.

It is difficult to understand what the grounds are for the belief that the prime minister of Israel, during his upcoming visit to the United States, will succeed in convincing the United States to invest enormous resources in helping Israel to retrench itself in Africa.

In the meantime, the African countries, which -- as was claimed in Jerusalem only a few days ago -- were about to follow in Zaire's footsteps, have surrendered to Arab pressure (and perhaps not only Arab pressure) and decided to refrain, for the moment, from establishing official diplomatic ties with Israel. Perhaps, among other things, they have reached the conclusion that this will not damage the benefits they are drawing from the economic cooperation with Israel and the economic and technological aid Israel has been giving them through all the years, even without official diplomatic relations.

The question is asked: Would it not have been better if the foreign minister and other ministers in the Government of Israel had from the start acted with restraint and treated the acheivement of the renewal of relations with Zaire as a small success, a first step on a long road, instead of inflating its significance out of all proportion?

IDF OFFICIAL ON SOVIET COASTAL SURVEILLANCE

TA251649 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The chief of IDF communications and electronics, Maj Gen Tzvi Amid, has said Soviet surveillance ships near the Israeli coastline pose a problem the IDF finds difficult to cope with. Speaking with our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Major General Amid said the IDF must now compete with technological capability at the superpower level and develop advanced techniques of coding and evasion of electronic surveillance.

Further Remarks

TA251757 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The Arab armies have been acquiring massive quantities of electronic warfare means which require an appropriate response on the part of the IDF, the chief of IDF communcations and electronics, Maj Gen Tzvi Amid, said in an interview today, Communications and Electronics Corps Day. In the IDF, the Communications Corps is in charge of electronic warfare against ground forces. Our military correspondent Hayim Ravia spoke with the chief of IDF communications and electronics.

[Begin recording] [Ravia] Major General Amid: The battlefront of the 1990's will be characterized by high mobility and vast quantities of equipment. What are the requisites of this battlefront as far as the Communications Corps is concerned?

[Answer] A force of equipment and soldiers without a communications system is comparable to the human body without the nervous system. Operating these forces in the battlefront conditions you mentioned -- mobile battles, large concentrations of forces, rapid and dynamic battles -- may be waged only if there is a reliable communications system.

[Question] In this context, what has been happening in the last few years in the field of communications systems, and to what degree does the Communications and Electronics Corps rely on its own production?

[Answer] Most instruments are made in Israel. I would like to emphasize that the main instruments are made in Israel. I do not think this is a revelation; it has been published in the press and the radio that our electronics industry, such as Tadiran and others, is even producing digital communications equipment. It is clear that this was accompanied by a development p'an in coordination with the IDF. A short time ago, the IDF also began acquiring digital equipment.

[Question] What is the advantage of digital equipment over the old equipment?

[Answer] Digital technology enables us to carry out or fulfill all types of requirements, mainly in the sphere of antielectronic warfare and in the field of concealing data. The fulfillment of these tasks is either impossible or very difficult through the old systems.

[Question] Major General Amid: You mentioned electronic warfare. It is known the Arab countries have been acquiring massive quantities of electronic warfare equipment. Could you elaborate on what is happening in this field among our neighbors?

[Answer] I would say that thanks to the success of electronic warfare measures, both in the 6-day war and in the Yom Kippur war, the Arab countries have begun acquiring massive quantities of such equipment. Western sources are open to them. This market is willing to sell, perhaps not the most modern, but indeed advanced technology on demand -- as long as there is money. We know that various Arab countries have been acquiring massive quantities of first-rate technological equipment. [end recording]

BEGIN SAYS SWISS TO RECEIVE ANTITANK WEAPONS

TA252011 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] In a speech today at Bar-Ilan University, the prime minister disclosed that Switzerland has signed two security deals with Israel totaling $220 million. According to him, the deals were signed although the Arabs threatened Switzerland with the oil weapon. As part of these two agreements, the prime minister said, Switzerland will receive the best antitank missiles in the world.

PLANE CARRYING ARMS TO ECUADOR STOPPED IN U.S.

TA260623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] An Ecuadorean cargo plane loaded with Israeli-made arms, which had not been declared, was stopped at Kennedy airport in New York yesterday. According to correspondents' reports the State Department is investigating whether the arms were intended for Argentina. The REUTER correspondent in New York has given details on the affair. He says it began when an Ecuadorean Airlines Boeing-707 landed at Kennedy airport yesterday. The plane, which was on a flight from Tel Aviv to Quito, landed for refueling. Customs officials asked for the plane's documents, which specified it was carrying 27,000 kg of aircraft spare parts. However, a check of the cargo indicated the plane contained two dozen sophisticated bombs and a large quantity of shells, missiles and other kinds of ammunition. The representative of Ecuador's national airline said the cargo is the Ecuadorean Government's property and is slated for its exclusive use. He said in the past Ecuadorean planes have landed in New York for refueling and that no problems have ever arisen. The New York customs spokesman said the plane was delayed in order to check whether this violated any U.S. regulations. According to U.S. law arms shipments require a special license by the State Department.

The NEW YORK DAILY NEWS reports that the U.S. State Department is investigating whether the arms were destined for Argentina. In contrast, NBC television reports it cannot be assumed the arms were indeed destined for Argentina.

IDF SOLDIER STABBED ON HEBRON-BEERSHEBA ROAD

TA260518 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2145 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Hebron, 25 May -- An unknown person stabbed an IDF soldier with a dagger. The soldier was standing at the soldiers' pickup station near the Adorayim camp on the Hebron-Beersheba road at noon yesterday when the incident occurred.

The soldier who was wounded in the chest slightly struggled with his attacker but his attacker managed to escape. The soldier was later rushed in an air force helicopter to the Hadassah medical center in Jerusalem where he was operated on.

The security forces have begun combing the area and the investigation is continuing. It should be noted that several towns which had been stormy lately are located in the vicinity of Adorayim. Some of these towns had been blocked off until a few days ago following the hurling of stones and Molotov cocktails at Israeli cars.

SOLDIERS REINFORCE POLICE ON GOLAN HEIGHTS

TA251020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Police on the Golan Heights have been reinforced with soldiers in order to deal with any attempts to dusturb the peace, our correspondent Yo'el Dar has reported. Today only 100 workers left for Israel.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO VISIT UK IN JUNE

TA200901 Jerusalem POST in English 20 May 82 p 3

[Report from London by Hayim Corney]

[Text] Top-level talks between British and Israeli Foreign Ministry officials are to be held in London next month. Leading the British team will be Deputy Under-Secretary and Political Director Julian Bullard. The Israeli team will probably be headed by the deputy to Director-General David Kimche.

The talks will be a direct result of the visit to Israel in March of the then British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington and other senior officials. The idea is that such talks should be held about twice a year, with the venue alternating between London and Jerusalem, in the same way that talks on economic matters are held at senior official level.

It represents a further manifestation of Britain's desire to improve its relations with Israel and to avoid the kind of misunderstandings that have bedevilled those relations in recent months.

In that connection, two senior Israeli ministers are due here at the invitation of their British counterparts. Deputy Premier Simha Ehrlich will be here from 24 May to 28 May and will be followed in July by Industry and Trade Minister Gid'on Pat.

Also coming is Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, who will be addressing the main Jerusalem Day function being organized by British Herut today.

PRESS COMMENTS ON JORDAN ARMS ISSUE, ELECTION

TA241108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 24 May 82

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] DAVAR writes it is advisable for the Begin government to signal to King Husayn that despite the declarations of the foreign and defense ministers in the present government the government intends neither to help the king's enemies to topple him nor to stand idly by in time of trouble. This would serve to counter the Syrian-Iranian threat to Jordan which the United States says exists and would serve as a supposition Israel could accept for purposes of discussion even if its decided position is completely different.

Renewal of the Israeli pledge to aid Husayn in the event of a Syrian invasion -- something which is in any case in Israel's interests -- is liable to pull the rug out from under the U.S. reasoning. As to the quadrilateral alliance [of Jordan-Saudi Arabia-Iraq-Egypt] it is not necessarily directed against Israel. U.S. influence over these countries can also moderate their positions. It is doubtful that there is any point in Israeli efforts to distance the United States from Arab countries that are willing to support its policy. It is preferable to concentrate on using the U.S. ties with these states as a lever for bringing the positions of the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict closer.

HATZOFE writes that it appears the dispute with the United States regarding the supply of arms should not be confined to Jordan. The crystallization of the quadrilateral alliance between Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Iraq with U.S. encouragement is no less dangerous than the supply of weapons to Jordan. Accordingly, as part of an information campaign upon which Israel has decided, all the military and political developments in the Middle East must be dealt with and not just the matter of the danger awaiting Israel because of the furnishing of Jordan with sophisticated arms. Moreover, the dispute with the United States is a general one and it should not be focused on the U.S. secretary of defense. It is not to be assumed that he has the final word on the sale of arms to Jordan; rather it is to be assumed that the White House was not surprised by Secretary Weinberger's steps. Accordingly, instead of making the dispute a personal one, it is preferable to confront openly the new trends in U.S. policy whose source lies in the White House.

The Jerusalem POST says the most powerful argument for early Knesset elections, apart from the hopes of the two large parties which may increase their representation, is that the continuation of the present instability is undesirable and that ultimately the nation must remedy the situation.

Opposition to Sale Urged

TA241032 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 24 May 82

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Excerpt] MA'ARIV writes that Israel has very convincing reasons for opposing the supply of modern arms to Jordan. Jordan's loyalty to the West is doubtful; for years now King Husayn has been having an overt affair with the Soviets. He also has nothing to fear from the Syrians because they are entangled both in an internal struggle against a rebellious opposition and in efforts to annex Lebanon. Likewise, Jordan is not threatened by its neighbors Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Thus, it is clear the modern arms that Jordan is to be supplied with will be directed primarily against Israel. The struggle against the U.S. plan must be conducted vigorously, without compromise and without fear of the administration's reactions.

Difficulties To Be Expected

TA241015 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 May 82 pp 2, 7

[Commentary by Erol Guiney: "What Difficulties Israel Can Expect in the Fight Against Hawk Missiles for Jordan"]

[Text] It seems that several factors will make Israel's fight against the sale of mobile improved Hawk antiaircraft missiles to Jordan easier than that which it conducted against the sale of AWACS intelligence aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

Nevertheless, the Pentagon is forwarding new claims and the success of the fight to foil the new deal with Jordan is not at all guaranteed.

Why Is the Fight Easier?

-- This time we will not see the enormous pressure on U.S. senators and congressmen used in the AWACS affair by the giant U.S. companies -- that is, by those companies with interests in Saudi Arabia and important ties there. Apart from this, the dimensions of the planned deal with Jordan are much smaller than in the AWACS deal with Saudi Arabia.

-- The danger to Israel's security is much clearer in the Jordanian case, because the distances in question are shorter than those involved in the AWACS issue.

-- The latest public opinion polls indicate that about two-thirds of the U.S. public opposes the deal, and in a congressional election year this will have great influence, more than the administration's pressure. Furthermore, President Reagan no longer enjoys the same degree of prestige he had in Congress during the AWACS fight.

-- Israel's campaign against the Jordanian deal has begun earlier and more vigorously than it did in the AWACS affair. The recruitment of pro-Israeli elements in the U.S. public and Congress will, therefore, be more efficent.

Why Is Success Not Guaranteed?

-- Because the Pentagon will try to convince Congress that, because of the Iranian successes in the battlefield, the situation in the Persian Gulf has become more dangerous and those opposed to Khomeyni's regime must be strengthened. If we take into account the deep U.S. hostility to the ayatollah's regime, then this point is of considerable significance.

-- Because Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger will try to stress that it is in the United States' interest to guarantee a strong Jordan, as a part of the Western camp, and perhaps even as part of a pro-Western coalition together with Saudi Arabia, the Gulf states and even Egypt. The secretary of defense will also be able to say the members of such a coalition might ultimately follow Egypt's path to a peace settlement with Israel.

Because of this, Weinberger will be able to claim that in the long run the arms deal with Jordan benefits not only the United States, but Israel as well.

-- Because, in contrast to what occurred in the AWACS affair, it is a fact that the Soviets have antiaircraft missiles that are more or less the equivalent of the U.S. Hawk missiles, and Jordan can purchase such missiles from Moscow. Therefore the danger to Israel will not lessen if the United States refrains from selling the missiles and Jordan buys them from the Soviet Union. Could this benefit Israel? Could it benefit the United States? The Pentagon personnel will insist that this latter course would not.

Both sides have different arguments. One thing is certain: The more talk there is about reviving the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation between us and the United States, the less understanding there is, apparently, on important, concrete issues. And this is true not only in arms sales, but also with regard to the ways in which the United States on the one hand and the Israelis on the other want to settle matters in the area in view of the Iran-Iraq war and other developments.

HA'ARETZ FEARS EVENTUAL CLASH IN LEBANON

TA231138 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 May 82 p 9

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "What Prevented War in the North"]

[Excerpt] These [U.S. pressure, divided public opinion and a fear that these divisions would be echoed in the army] are the forces that acted on the prime minister at the beginning of the week to not launch a large-scale attack on the terrorists in southern Lebanon. However, it does not follow that these forces will continue to exercise decisive influence; the data are liable to change all at once, and at any time. The forces that acted last week face strong forces working in the opposite direction. One of these is the terrorists themselves, or factions among them who will try to continue carrying out terrorist acts in Israel in order to justify their existence. However, not only terrorist acts in Israel are involved, but also mine planting in the north -- be it in Major Haddad's enclave or even in Israeli territory near the border. The PLO's official line is that the cease-fire is valid only on the Lebanese border and in southern Lebanon. Incidentally, was there not a possibility of Israel's accepting the terrorists' interpretation of the case-fire and announcing that all the territory north of the Az-Zaharani River in Lebanon was not included in the cease-fire?

Another hawkish force is that represented by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon. Sharon's conception is not identical to that of Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan who sees things from a military viewpoint and whose main objective is to push the terrorists' bases as far as possible from Israel's border. Sharon is not guided by the problem of terrorism, but by a political thesis that he has developed in recent months. He makes a connection between the quiet on the West Bank and the continuation of the negotiations on autonomy with the destruction of the PLO's infrastructure in Lebanon. I do not know whether Sharon has already explained his conception to the Cabinet, to the United States or to foreign elements.

Sharon's thesis is that the PLO's infrastructure in Lebanon makes any negotiations between Israel and the Arabs more difficult -- whether the leaders in the territories, the Jordanians or the Egyptians -- on autonomy. The existence of this infrastructure also prevents the turning of Jordan into a Palestinian state, as Sharon would like to see happen.

Sharon regards the PLO not as a military danger but as a political one. However, his main means of opposing them happens to be military. It is not terrorism in the north that frightens him, but the terrorists' ability to disrupt political moves. Yet his response to them comes in the form of an iron hand. If matters were thus explained to the Cabinet ministers, the discussion of terrorism and the cease-fire violations might perhaps be more exhaustive and thorough.

Sharon is convinced that Israel has only to wait for the right moment, when an opportunity for action arises. With his military background he suspects it would be very easy to get entangled in Lebanon, because of field conditions but chiefly because of all the other factors connected with the Lebanese problem. However, spurring Sharon is not only the situation in Lebanon but the feeling that quiet in the West Bank cannot be achieved solely by the dismissals of Ash-Shak'ah and Khalaf but by means of the PLO's destruction in Lebanon, and that Jordan's conversion into Palestine will occur when the Palestinians' infrastructure in Lebanon is destroyed. I fear that ultimately he will find a crack through which to slip his plan, even if he calls it by another name. I think this not because this is a brilliant and correct thesis, but rather because the two forces pushing for a clash -- the terrorists on the one hand and Sharon and his plan on the other -- are stronger or at least as strong as the opposing forces which urged restraint last Sunday.

PRESS ON LABOR PARTY, JERUSALEM, SHARON TRIP

TA210753 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 21 May 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] 'AL HAMISHMAR says that central forces in the Labor Party are pushing MAPAM outside the framework of the Alignment. The agreement with Knesset Members Amnon Linn and Yitzhaq Peretz was not merely a manipulation -- as it had initially appeared -- but a continuation of the 'Arafatization of the Labor Party. The Alignment cannot and must not be an artificial curtain to conceal the real differences in positions and points of view. MAPAM regards its role in the Alignment as a full partner, rather than as someone clinging to the apron of the Labor Party -- as the paper phrases it -- and is trying, through pleas and threats, to prevent it from pursuing another path. The newspaper adds the Labor Party is making a decisive and historic mistake by leaning to the right, toward the gray field [sadot aforim]. However, if that is its decision, MAPAM will not be a pain in its neck or a stumbling block on its way. Yet, let all those who are leading and dragging the Labor Party in this new direction realize that they will be responsible for dismantling the Alignment.

DAVAR is convinced that Jerusalem's status and strength will solidify if we do not apply to it the same yardsticks we use regarding any other site beyond the green line. Those who think that settlements near Nabulus are a vital necessity are thus undermining Israel's resistance concerning the status of all of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The desire to grasp too much and all at once has already affected Israel's strength and a certain erosion in the rate of the Jewish population in Jerusalem can be discerned. Even if the extent of this erosion is not yet significant, it can and must be corrected.

AL-ANBA' writes that a comfortable atmosphere has been created on the eve of Minister Sharon's visit to the United States, thanks to Israel's restraint in the northern front, the completion on time of the Sinai evacuation, the relative calm in the territories and the willingness of many African countries to tighten their relations with Israel.

PRESS COMMENTS ON LEBANON, IRAN-IRAQ WAR

TA260759 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 26 May 82

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] Whatever Damascus' considerations are, one thing is clear to Israel: It wants peace also on the northern front. This is stated by HATZOFE. However, if the Syrians try to violate the peace they will be hit hard. This was proven by the Israeli Air Force in the short dogfight over Beirut.

AL-ANBA' writes that the United States' concern due to Iraq's defeat and the danger of the expansion of Khomeynism is understood. Also acceptable is its desire to consolidate a bloc of moderate Arab countries for the defense of the Persian Gulf. Nevertheless, by encouraging, even indirectly, Egypt's boycott of Israel and its capital the United States is only moving further away from this objective.

POST Speculates on Consequences

TA260924 Jerusalem POST in English 26 May 82 p 10

[Editorial: "New Middle East Vistas"]

[Text] When Iraq launched its war on Iran 20 months ago, its chances of quick success appeared to be excellent. Now its seems that Iraq will be lucky to escape utter defeat. A string of impressive Iranian gains in the Gulf war over the past several weeks culminated Monday in the recepture of the strategic port city of Khorramshahr. This virtually ends the Iraqi hold on the conquered Province of Khuzestan.

The Iranians may stabilize their line along the recognized international frontier with Iraq, or they may try to cross it.

By turning the tables on its enemy, Iran has sent shock waves through the region. The oil-rich Gulf states, which have been heavily backing Iraq in the war, are gravely concerned that a final Iranian victory would be followed by a bid to export the Ayatollah Khomeyni's "Islamic revolution" into their territories.

The first victim, however, of such a bid might be Iraq itself, where the Saddam Husayn regime could be toppled -- this is surely the Iranians' aim -- by a revolt of the Shi'ite majority.

This would, as a first step, bring about a rapprochement between the long hostile neighbours, Iraq and Syria. It would radically alter the balance of forces in the area and thus could have serious implications for Israel.

Of more immediate concern to Israel, however, is the effect of the recent Iranian victories on relations between Egypt and the pro-Western Arab states supporting Iraq in the war.

Egypt has now admitted that it has been providing Iraq with ammunition and other military supplies for some time, even though Baghdad has been among the most uncompromising opponents of its peace treaty with Israel. According to the latest reports, Egypt has just signed a massive arms deal with Iraq to provide it with much of the Soviet-supplied equipment it is now phasing out of its own arsenal in favour of arms from the West.

Cairo has also stated that it considers itself bound by the 1950 Arab mutual defence pact to aid Iraq if its territory is threatened by a foreign power.

The quid pro quo has been that Iraq, along with Jordan, Saudi Arabia and its other Arab allies, anxious to bring Egypt back into the Arab mainstream in the face of the Iranian threat, have in recent weeks conspicuously dropped their former opposition to Egypt's peace treaty with Israel. A number of these states, including Jordan, have even begun to take up Egypt's cue that Israel's evacuation of the whole of Sinai could serve as a precedent for the other territories taken in 1967.

This is an interesting development. True, it might be just another move in what Saudi Arabia has recently described as the Arab "peace offensive" -- a tactical ploy designed to regain the areas lost in the six day war as a first stage in the recovery of "all of Palestine." Even if it were meant in earnest, it would represent little more than the routine Arab misreading of Resolution 242, which does not itself insist on the return of "all the" occupied territories.

Yet thought is dictated by sheer exigency, and while it falls far short of the minimal present requirement of true moderation, this development might herald the opening of new vistas of future peacemaking. In any case it deserves better than the automatic rejection it is likely to receive from an Israeli Government which is committed to keeping "all" the territories.

ALGERIA

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH GREECE

PM241425 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 14-15 May 82 p 4

[APS report: "Three Agreements"]

[Text] Algiers -- Three Algerian-Greek agreements reflecting the two countries' desire and willingness to strengthen cooperative relations at all levels were signed Thursday morning. These agreements, whose signing ceremony was attended by the prime minister, complete the talks held by the Greek delegation, led by [Prime Minister] Andreas Papandreou, and party and state leaders, headed by Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the [GLN] party.

The first agreement dealt with strengthening bilateral cooperation in the economic field and the exchange of expertise in the scientific and technological fields. It also discussed the establishment of an Algerian-Greek joint committee, which will meet periodically in Algiers and Athens.

The agreement was signed by FLN Central Committee member and Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, on the Algerian side, and Commerce Minister Nikolaos Akritidhis, on the Greek side.

The second agreement, signed by the two countries' ministers, deals with a plan designed to increase trade between Algeria and Greece. Oil and phosphates will be exported to Greece, under the agreement. At the same time cereals and construction materials will be imported from Greece.

The third and last agreement signed by Algeria's habitat minister and the Greek public works minister envisages the establishment of cooperation between the countries in the housing and town planning fields. The agreement envisages the construction of housing projects in Algeria, for which Greece will be responsible. Some 5,000-10,000 homes will be constructed in the first phase.

Possibilities of an agreement to repair Algerian ships in Greece were also discussed by the two delegations.

IBRAHIMI MEETS WITH LIBYAN COUNTERPART

LD250000 Tripoli JANA in English 1757 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 25 May (JANA) -- The secretary of the People's Committee of Foreign Liaison Bureau this morning met with Mr. Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi, the Algerian minister of foreign affairs.

They discussed the importance of joint meetings within the unionist steps between both countries.

The meeting also discussed the preparation for the next African summit conference.

ASH-SHA'B SCORES KING HASSAN'S U.S. VISIT

PM241543 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 18 May 82 p 1

[Unattributed editorial: "Arabizing the 'Strategic agreement'"]

[Text] The Rabat king's visit to Washington, scheduled to begin today, involves a serious deal providing for the conclusion of "a strategic agreement" under which the Rapid Deployment Force will be given bases in return for increased military support for the royalist regime's aggressive war against the North African flank of the Arab liberation movement.

What makes this step even more serious is that it is part of a strategic process in which Israel plays the central part and the other auxiliary parts are played by certain Arab states such as Egypt and Oman, both of which have given the U.S. forces the necessary military facilities.

It was not sheer coincidence that shortly before playing host to Hassan II, President Reagan spoke of the need to revive the strategic agreement with the Zionist entity, reached years ago and announced about 1 year ago. The Zionist-American-reactionary strategic agreement plan reminds us of previous plans foiled and nipped in the bud by the national and progressive forces, such as the fertile crescent plan and the Baghdad pact.

The aim of the Arab aspect of the new U.S. plan is to forge some kind of hot alliance among the pro-Washington regimes by exploiting the 20-month-old Iraqi-Iranian war. This explains the very belated "national awakening" of the regimes in question.

Such alliances proved effective in Africa in the past when Rabat, at the behest of and with the support of Washington, went to the aid of the lackey regimes, as in the province of Shaba in Zaire. The Moroccan intervention there created a "special relationship" between Rabat and Kinshasa in the service of U.S. imperialist interests in the Black Continent.

The extensive U.S. military support for Morocco since Reagan's arrival at the White House draws all its justifications from these facts which we have just outlined. These facts also repudiate all Washington's feeble claims such as "restoring the balance between the Moroccan forces and the Saharan Liberation Army" after the Guelta Zemmour battle. Nothing matches this claim better than the Moroccan "official opposition" press claim that "the strategic alliance with Washington is a sign of positive neutrality." The truth, however, drowns such claims. The truth was uttered by Washington itself which announced the Reagan administration considers Morocco as "a strategic gate to the Middle East" and as a forward position for striking at the Arab-African liberation movement. This is why all the current maneuvers in the Arab arena should be seen as an attempt to extend the "strategic agreement" concluded with Israel to certain Arab aides, foremost among them Morocco.

This is perhaps the crux of the second phase of Camp David doctored to suit the implications of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

By stooping so dangerously low, the Rabat regime is placing Morocco's resources and territory at the disposal of the imperialist and Zionist interests.

ASH-SHA'B DENOUNCES MOBUTU'S ARAB SYMPATHIZERS

PM241441 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 20 May 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Repercussions of Defection"]

[Text] Despite all that has been said about Mobutu's regime restoring its diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity and establishing an embassy in occupied Jerusalem, the Zairian defection is more than a mere stab in the back for Arab-African solidarity or a blow to the Arab and African liberation movement. This is so not only because of the intensity of financial and political relations between Mobutu's regime and certain Arab Gulf states and the Rabat regime but also because Zaire's policy carries within it characteristics of As-Sadat's policy, the extent of whose damage and destruction to the Arab nation and its fateful causes, foremost of which is the cause of Palestine, we now eealize.

If As-Sadat in the recent past acted foolishly and dissented from Arab unanimity in order to establish a separate peace with the Zionist entity at the expense of the Arab nation's number one cause, Mobutu is today following the same path at the expense of Arab-African solidarity and without any regard for the consequences of his actions for Arab-African relations.

Although it would be superfluous to say that Arab-African solidarity is far too strong to be affected by what a regime like Mobutu's decides because it is based and built on the unity of the Arab and African peoples in their stand against Zionism and racism, we must point out here that the treachery this time also excludes the sound of Arab reaction, which these days is raising the slogan of returning Egypt to the Arab fold preparatory extending the Camp David agreements to the whole Arab world.

Anybody observing Zaire's relations with certain Arab oil countries and the Rabat regime cannot understand how Mobutu's regime -- the credit for saving it from financial bankruptcy and popular revolution goes to these countries -- can establish diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity, which is occupying Arab lands and violating Islamic holy places.

An observer can only wonder: What is the attitude of the chairman of "the committee for the liberation of Jerusalem" toward Mobutu's regime, which he saved by sending his army to quell the popular revolution in Shaba and what is his reaction to the fact that the party he saved has opened an embassy in Jerusalem, thus defying the Arab and Islamic world and ignoring the recommendation of the "prince of the faithful?"

The intense and multifaceted relations between Mobutu's regime and Arab regimes known for their sympathy with Camp David leave no room for doubt that the Zairian step carries in it the first indications of what some of the Arab capitals have been advocating about the need to return Egypt to the Arab fold with their raising of the slogan of Arab solidarity as a prelude to Arabizing Camp David and, consequently, liquidating the Palestine problem.

EL MOUDJAHID SAYS U.S. BEHIND ZAIRE-ISRAEL TIES

NC231005 Paris AFP in English 0955 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Algiers, 23 May (AFP) -- The Algerian daily EL MOUDJAHID, which generally reflects government views, today accused the United States of being behind Zaire's recent renewal of diplomatic relations with Israel in order to sabotage August's planned organization of African Unity summit in Tripoli.

Washington is reckoning on giving the death blow to the summit, which is already threatened by the admission of the Algerian-backed self-proclaimed Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic to the OAU, the newspaper charged.

EL MOUDJAHID predicted that the Zairian move would be certainly condemned at the Tripoli conference.

GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS NEW VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR

PM250907 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 19 May 82 p 12

[APS report: "Acceptance of New Vietnamese Ambassador"]

[Excerpt] Algiers -- The Algerian Government has just given its agreement to the appointment of Mr Le Tan as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Algeria.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI CONDEMNS ZAIRE FOR ISRAELI TIES

LD251950 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1850 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 25 May (JANA) -- Col mu'Ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution, has denounced Zaire's restoration of relations with the Zionist enemy. At his meeting with the ambassadors of the African states this morning in Tripoli, he stressed that this act had rendered a cheap service to our racist enemies in occupied Palestine and South Africa.

He added the position of the Government of Zaire has become hostile to the Arab nation and all the African peoples and this is a great disappointment to us. He said: Today, when we are celebrating the 19th anniversary of the OAU, we express our great regret that an African state, a member of the organization, has left our ranks and completely joined the ranks of the racists, the enemies of Africa.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi stressed that we cannot but condemn this act, which is a cheap service to racists in Africa and occupied Palestine.

The brother leader told the African ambassadors the fact that the Government of Egypt has recognized the Zionist enemy should not be a justification for an African government like Zaire to take the step of restoring its relations with the racist entity in Palestine, because Egypt was forced into this illegitimate and illegal recognition. Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said this recognition would certainly be abrogated by the Egyptian people some day as proven by the fact that the head of the Egyptian regime that signed this recognition was killed by the Egyptians themselves. He added: The Africans who are celebrating the anniversary of the establishment of the organization all strongly urge Zaire immediately to reconsider its decision to restore relations with the Zionist entity.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi announced we will not stand idly by in the face of any attempt to render service to the racists in occupied Palestine or South Africa. He warned that any African state following the example of Zaire would most certainly find itself on the losing side; all assistance to it would be cut off, any support to it would stop and it would be fought economically and politically.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES AFRICAN AMBASSADORS 25 MAY

LD251958 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1805 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 25 May (JANA) -- Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has emphasized Libya is determined to play an active and effective role in resolving the urgent issues facing the OAU. During his meeting with the African ambassadors this morning in Tripoli, on the occasion of Africa Day, he said we must intensify our efforts for the people of Namibia so they can gain their independence and return the Diego Garcia Archipelago to the mother land, the African continent.

The leader of the Great 1 September Revolution emphasized to the African Ambassadors that the OAU came into being as a result of the independent African will in 1963, and its proclamation marked the culmination of African efforts and conferences to secure a regional organization for Africans that would work for the realization of African unity. The leader also explained to the African ambassadors on the occasion of African Liberation Day on 25 May that this work will remain the strategic objective of the OAU.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said the gains won by the African Continent were not achieved easily but were realized thanks to sacrifices and continuous struggle against colonialism. The leader voiced the hope of seeing the people of South Africa gain their independence [words indistinct] the apartheid regime.

More on Remarks

LD252015 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1857 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 25 May (JANA) -- Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has declared that the forthcoming OAU summit will find a solution to the Sahara problem now facing the OAU, and therefore, he said, presence at such a conference is an absolute necessity. That came during his meeting today in Tripoli with the African ambassadors.

He warned any paralysis that might beset the forthcoming African summit would harm Africa alone and would make its enemies rejoice, stressing that the issue is not that of the summit's venue, because this is an ordinary session affecting all the organization's members and the issue is that of Africa and its organization.

Colonel Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, expressed his full confidence in Africa's ability to resolve all its problems, and its ability to secure its rights and overcome the racists and the imperialists.

He said the forthcoming OAU summit will be where all the outstanding African problems will be resolved and where the foundation stone will be laid for economic integration and strategic cooperation between African states, both rich and poor.

IMPERIALISM SEEN AS CONTROLLING IRAQI DEFEAT

LD251516 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] International news agencies and radios have for the past 24 hours been reporting the Iranian forces' capture of the Khorramshahr area and the reinstating of Iranian control over it. This followed the withdrawal and retreat of the Iraqi forces after more than 18 months since the latter's invasion of Iranian territory in that area which has been the strategic battlefield in the Iraq-Iran war throughout recent months. Regarding the recent development of the Iraq-Iran war and its dimensions, our political affairs commentator wrote the following analysis:

The Iraqi forces' withdrawal from Khorramshahr and their retreat to the international border between Iraq and Iran was no surprise to political observers, particularly during the past few months. [as heard] The general development of the Iraq-Iran war recently has recorded the military supremacy of the Iranian forces over the Iraqi forces. But there is more than one tactical and strategic element behind the defeat of the Saddam regime and its military and political downfall in this war. These elements may not be understood by the general public because they are hidden behind a number of political events and facts.

Before dealing with these elements, it should be pointed out here that the lack of balance in Baghdad between the factors or strong motivations and the causes of the war [as heard] was behind the defeat of Saddam Husayn, even inside the Iraqi Army itself, while this element did not exist in Tehran. The opposite is true. The Iranian masses rallied with all their strength around their leadership, in harmony with this leadership's aims, to achieve victory from the point of self-defense -- an attitude which was imposed by the political leadership in Baghdad not only on the Iranian people but also on the fraternal people in Iraq, who throughout the war period, now passing through its final stages, remained dissatisfied and rejected the war. Even when the reactionary regimes, under the leadership of the Saudi regime, tried to support and shore up the Iraqi regime, they were incapable of doing so despite the arms and funds which poured into Baghdad.

This failure to save the Iraqi position in the war was clearly manifested at the recent meeting in Kuwait of the GCC, which is under the domination of the Saudi rulers. Despite the fact that the Iraqi regime's lack of any pan-Arab or nationalist support was not declared, there are several elements prominent in the development of events in the region. They are part of the theatrical play of the Iraq-Iran, or the Gulf war as the imperialist circles like to call it.

During recent days, international news agencies and radios have reported a number of events and political developments, among them the visits by U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger to Riyadh, Amman and Oman; the Gulf shuttletours by King Husayn of Jordan to a number of Arab countries and tours by YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Oman, Riyadh, Amman and Baghdad, the countries of the reactionary-imperialist axis in the war.

On the conclusion of these U.S.-Jordanian-YAR visits and tours, the media reported statements to the effect that a military force is being prepared to play a future role in the Gulf region, a force which is to be the Trojan horse with a U.S.-Arab appearance, but totally foreign in everything else, from head to hooves.

Time has revealed the identity of the (?sides) behind the establishment of such a force -- the Egyptian army, which no longer has a pan-Arab role following Egypt's fall and which has become a pawn moved by the whims of the rulers of the policies of their imperialist allies. In view of the formation of an Egyptian-Jordanian-YAR force undertaking to play the role of a policeman in the Gulf area from forward positions in Shatt al-Arab, the Iraqi forces' role, which they were compelled to play by Saddam Husayn, will come to an end in accordance with a studied plan prepared by circles in Washington. Observers are of the opinion that this acceleration of the end of Saddam Husayn's involvement in the Iraq-Iran war may be due to the fact that he is being given the opportunity to prepare for the forthcoming summit conference of the nonaligned countries to be held in Baghdad in September.

It is in harmony with such events and the Iraqi regime's role in them that one can see Baghdad's declaration to move toward the resumption of relations with Cairo, so the first meeting between the head of the Egyptian regime and the biggest of international gatherings since the boycott and isolation of the Egyptian regime following its signing of the treasonous Camp David agreements can take place in an Arab capital.

Thus, the Iraqi forces' withdrawal from the war with Iran cannot be explained as being a mere defeat for the Saddam Husayn regime but a role which has come to an end in an imperialist plan which has ulterior aims.

BRIEFS

OIL EXPERTISE AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL -- Brasilia, 25 May (JANA) -- The oil secretary of the jamahiriyah and the Brazilian minister of energy yesterday [24 May] signed minutes of a bilateral technological cooperation agreement, stipulating increased technological cooperation in the oil and gas sector and exchanging expertise. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in English 1840 GMT 25 May 82 LD]

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON OAU ANNIVERSARY

AB251937 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 25 May 82

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation statement issued 25 May 1982 on the occasion of commemoration of the 19th anniversary of the OAU -- read by Maj Ahmed Ould Abdallah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation]

[Text] Today, 25 May 1982, the OAU is celebrating Africa Day. In 1963, the peoples of Africa made their desire for unity and solidarity a reality in order to achieve common objectives and to insure the destiny of their communities. Since this date several African territories have freed themselves from colonial bondage but some other territories remain to be liberated. South Africa continues to be subjected to the barbarous domination of a racist minority regime. The Namibian people, under the leadership of SWAPO, continue their valiant struggle to gain their legitimate independence. Nearer to us, in Western Sahara, the Polisario Front has been pursuing its national liberation struggle for over 6 years.

Today the OAU is faced with problems from all quarters. One cannot but see that this situation can only serve as a pretext for those who still dream about perpetuating the division of Africa into spheres of influence.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania reiterates its unflinching attachment to the OAU, its principles and objectives and makes a pressing appeal to all African states to rise above their economic differences so that the OAU may live and consolidate itself for the good of Africa and African people.

MOROCCO

BOUCETTA SEEKS TO BRING EGYPT BACK TO ARAB FOLD

LD240930 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 24 May (KUNA) -- The Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, M'hamed Boucetta, said in an interview published here today that his country will try "by all means" to bring Egypt back to the Arab ranks from which it was expelled because of the 1979 peace process with Israel.

He told the Kuwaiti AL-WATAN that the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai which was handed over to Egypt last April is "a positive action because Arab territory was returned to the Arab nation and this in itself is a positive thing. This is why His Majesty King Hassan II decided to send a cable to President Husni Mubarak, congratulating him first on the return of Egyptian land and urging him to place Egypt's capabilities at the service of consolidating the Arab ranks for the liberation of the remaining usurped Arab land."

He added: "Morocco regarded Egypt's departure from Arab ranks as a loss to the Arab nation in view of Egypt's weight and strength." Boucetta, who accompanied His Majesty King Hassan II on an official visit to Washington this week, announced he will be visiting Egypt soon but he said this will be more in an African context than in an Arab one. The paper said that the visit will take place next Thursday.

GUINEA'S SEKOU TOURE ARRIVES, VIEWS GULF WAR

LD251324 Rabat MAP in English 1231 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Rabat, 25 May (MAP) -- Guinean President Haj Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived here Monday afternoon where he is to stay until Tuesday, before leaving for Spain.

In a statement he made to the press upon arrival, President Sekou Toure said that "since the At-Taif conference, the Islamic peace committee constituted then made constant efforts to find a solution to the war between the two brotherly Islamic countries, Iraq and Iran".

He added that "ten days ago, a nine member committee contacted me in Conakry and we held important talks on the subject", and that an Iraqi delegation will visit the Guinean capital before May 27.

He said that on Sunday May 23, "we have submitted to all members of the Islamic peace committee a proposition to hold a meeting in Jidda beginning June 5 or 6 to study the latest developments of the situation and probably resume contacts with both countries authorities".

"The last proposition we have made", he went on, "is confidential. This is why [we] cannot disclose it nor comment it. But we believe it attracted both governments attention and God will help us to rapidly succeed through a peace treaty that will be a definite end to the murderous conflict opposing the two Moslem peoples". Our hope (for success) is contact", he concluded.

Lauding on the other hand, King Juan Carlos of Spain, Mr Sekou Toure said his visit to Spain aims at reinforcing the deep and fruitful friendship existing between Guinea and Spain.

Haj Sekou Toure was welcomed upon arrival by Moroccan Premier Mr Maati Bouabid, the cabinet members, Mr Dey Ould Sidi Baba, speaker of the Moroccan House of Representatives, the king's advisor, Mr Ahmed Bensouda and many other senior civil and military personalities.

TUNISIA

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTER

LD222030 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 May 82

[Summary from poor reception] The prime minister today met with the French defense minister and discussed with him means of developing bilateral relations. Prior to his departure this afternoon, the French minister said he came to Tunisia to exchange views with Tunisian officials on various areas of cooperation, and particularly military cooperation. He was seen off by the prime minister and other officials.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES BREZHNEV, MITTERRAND LETTERS

LD221454 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] This morning President Habib Bourguiba discussed the current international situation and Tunisia's relations with some fraternal and friendly countries with Minister of Foreign Affairs Beji Caid es-Sebsi. The minister of foreign affairs delivered letters to the head of state from Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Leonid Brezhnev; French President Francois Mitterrand and SFRY President Petar Stambolic. The letters come within the framework of deliberations and exchanges of views on (?important) international issues between President Habib Bourguiba and the heads of those states.

ETHIOPIA

LIBYAN ARRIVES FOR INFORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING

EA251722 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Brother 'Abd ar-Rahman (Shalgam), administrative secretary of the Libyan Revolutionary People's Liaison Committee, today arrived in Addis Ababa to take part in the second meeting of the information ministers committee of the countries signatory to the Aden agreement due to start in Addis Ababa tomorrow.

On arrival in Addis Ababa Brother (Shalgam) said this meeting is crucial for the implementation of plans formulated during the first meeting of the committee of socialist Ethiopia, Libya and the PDRY on establishing cooperation in the information field and strengthening their relations on the basis of their peoples' wishes and interests. He expressed his belief that this meeting would achieve fruitful results since the agreement reached among the three countries during their first information ministers committee meeting held in Tripoli furthered common goals and interests.

On his arrival in Addis Ababa, Brother (Shalgam) was met by Comrade Girma Yiulma, minister of information and national guidance and member of the COPWE Central Committee, other officials of the ministry, and Brother (Kalifa Ahmed Azaria), secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Socialist Ethiopia.

Last week PDRY Information Minister Comrade Muhammad Abd al-Qawi arrived in Addis Ababa also to attend this meeting of information ministers of the three countries.

KENYA

COMMISSIONER DECLARES WAR AGAINST SHIFTA GANGS

AB251710 Paris AFP in English 1656 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 25 May (AFP) -- A provincial commissioner in northeastern Kenya has declared a protracted war against the banditry of armed ethnic Somalis (Shiftas) and said he had "ordered security forces now combing the province not to return until they had wiped out Shifta bandits from the area."

"We don't want the Shiftas to be brought alive as the government has no money to feed them in prison," the official KENYA NEWS AGENCY (KNA) today quoted Commissioner Benson Kaaria as telling a large public rally in Wajir yesterday.

The branch chairman of the Wajir KANU (Kenya African National Union) Party, Adan Jiran Musa, told the rally that the Shifta banditry was fueled by a large influx of arms brought in on camels and donkeys from neighbouring countries and sold cheaply in the district.

Mr Musa called on people living in the areas affected to report the bandits' movements. The government would keep the information in confidence and the public need not fear any retaliation, he said.

Mr Kaaria also banned effective immediately the movement of civil servants from travelling to and from the troubled areas, heavily populated by Somalis, unless the travel was sanctioned by the security committee.

The ban follows the killing during the weekend of Wajir Central District Officer Haron Matoke and Police Constable Noor Mohamed in a shooting ambush on the Wajir-Mandera road by a Shifta gang.

The same gang also ambushed a former district officer and member of the presidential commission for soil conservation and forestation, Ali Farah, shooting him dead and his child.

SOMALIA

SOVIET PROPAGANDA MASKS 'EXPANSIONISM'

EA252100 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 25 May 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] In its African programs Radio Moscow broadcasts propaganda and cheap stories about Somalia and Sudan. Radio Moscow reported that the Sudanese president and the Somali foreign minister issued a joint communique on Russian expansionism. The Somali foreign minister has not visited Sudan recently, neither has any Sudanese Government delegation recently visited Somalia. This in itself is a clear indication of Radio Moscow's unfounded lies.

Somalia's foreign and domestic policies are based on the principles of peaceful coexistence with its neighbors and cooperation with the rest of the world. It opposes interference in the internal and external affairs of other countries. Russian policy is without principles and has no respect for international charters. Its occupation of Afghanistan by force proves this. It has also occupied Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland by force and today its eyes are focused on implementing its expansionist policy in Abyssinia and other [African] countries, in Latin America and South Asia.

Soviet expansionism was first detected by Egypt, Sudan and Somalia which expelled the Russians after recognizing its two-faced policy.

The USSR is a superpower and shoulders responsibility for maintaining world peace as stipulated in the UN Charter, since it is party to the UN permanent committee [as heard]. It is known that the USSR launched naked aggression against the Horn of Africa in 1977. With the help of its surrogates it trampled on its cherished objective of assisting liberation movements and instead advanced its strategic interests.

However, we would like to tell Radio Moscow that its cheap propaganda will not mask Russian oppression of its own nationals and others in the rest of the world -- a direct result of its expansionist policy. Somalia and Sudan are two sisterly countries. They are both Arab and have a long history. Their cooperation and good relations will continue, and no cheap propaganda will mar these relations, whatever its content.

BRIEFS

ITALIAN DEFENSE OFFICIAL VISITS -- Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party and president of the Somali Democratic Republic, received at the presidency last night Italy's assistant defense minister, Mr (Martino), who recently arrived in Somalia on a short visit at the invitation of Somali Defense Ministry. The president and Mr (Martino) discussed mutual cooperation and friendship and current international problems. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Mr (Martino) held identical views on almost all the issues discussed. [Excerpt] [Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 14 May 82 EA]

TANZANIA

BRIEFS

AID FROM BULGARIA -- Tanzania and Bulgaria today signed an agreement under which Bulgaria would extend an additional credit of 90 million shillings to Tanzania. A spokesman of the Ministry of Industries said that the additional amount supplements an earlier credit of 180 million shillings given by Bulgaria under an agreement signed between the two countries in 1979. [Excerpts] [Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1600 GMT 20 May 82 EA]

GABON

BONGO RETURNS TO LIBREVILLE FROM LUANDA

AB251943 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] His Excellency el-Hadj Omar Bongo, president of the republic and head of state, has ended his working visit to Angola. The father of the renovation returned to the capital early this evening.

RWANDA

CCP DELEGATION ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS 25 MAY

AB252201 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The Chinese delegation led by Comrade Zhang Zhixiang, vice minister in the Chinese Communist Party [CCP], which has been in the country since last week, has just ended its visit. The delegation left Kigali at 1945, but the farewell ceremony was performed at 1500 under the chairmanship of Joseph (Havaroganda), member of the Central Committee of the National Revolutionary Development Movement [MRND] and president of the appeals court, and in the presence of Flavien (Havaroshaka), also a member of the MRND Central Committee and prefect of the Kigali Division.

Speaking on this occasion, Joseph (Havaroganda) thanked the Chinese delegation for responding positively to the invitation of the Rwandan Government and people and thus strengthening the relations of friendship and (?cooperation) between the peoples of Rwanda and China. Within the framework of reciprocal visits to their respective countries, Joseph (Havaroganda) indicated that a Rwandan delegation comprising all prefects will visit China in September 1982, while the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation will lead another delegation to Beijing next year.

Comrade Zhang Zhixiang stated that the visit of his delegation has been a success. He expressed his satisfaction over the reception granted him by President Juvenal Habyarimana and by MRND Secretary General Bonaventure Habymana. This was proof of the frank cooperation between the MRND and the Chinese Communist Party. Our talks with the officials of the MRND were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, he said. The head of the Chinese delegation called for (?frequent visits) to promote increasingly active cooperation between Rwanda and the People's Republic of China.

In an interview with the RWANDAN NEWS AGENCY, Comrade Zhang Zhixiang expressed his feelings on the visit he has just made to our country:

[Begin Zhang Zhixiang recording in French] Our feeling about your country is a great, unforgettable emotion. When I speak of great emotion, it is because I have noticed that Rwandans -- from the president of the republic and the party officials down to the basis, that is the common people -- are all prompted by the same desire to rely on their own work and display self-denial and obstinacy in their efforts to live in peace. You have mobilized the people in the MRND owing to which you have achieved successes necessary for progress and national development in the economy, culture, training, public health and social welfare.

When I speak of emotion, it is because wherever we went, we received an enthusiastic welcome from the Rwandan people and also because we noticed that the friendship between the Chinese and Rwandan peoples has already penetrated the hearts and minds of Rwandans. In this respect, I want to stress that all the moving scenes we witnessed will never be erased from our hearts. [end recording]

ZAIRE

AZAP EXPLAINS DECISION ON ISRAEL TO ARABS

AB251806 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0815 GMT 25 May 82

[AZAP commentary: "Truths That Should Be Told"]

[Text] Kinshasa, 24 May (AZAP) -- There is no doubt about it, the restoration of diplomatic relations between Zaire and Israel has upset certain regions in the Islamic world.

After the resentment from several Middle East capitals and the disapproving statements from a certain number of Black African leaders, comes the artillery shot from the Arab League and the Arab Steadfastness Front.

In fact, none of this surprises us: We knew perfectly well in advance that by taking such a position (?some countries) would not agree with us. But we are not looking forward to entering into polemics with them or with anybody else. All the same, we deem it expedient to clarify certain obscure points, considering the agtitations going on in some Arab countries and organizations whose statements have gone beyond reasonable limits and decency.

In fact, from sources close to the OAU General Secretariat, Zaire has learned with astonishment that Mr Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, has enjoined the OAU secretary general to take a stand on Zaire's decision to renew diplomatic relations with Israel. Mr Eden Kodjo was invited with only the opportunity of "saying no to Zaire's decision."

Does the OAU, a pan-African organization of consultation among sovereign states, therefore have "supernational" power which permits it to constrain the states on specific points concerning their national sovereignty -- which is by definition inalienable -- and the power to impose a given policy on them...?

Furthermore, does the Arab League, a pan-Arab organization grouping a certain number of Arab states, have the power to dictate policy to the OAU, an African organization with a charter in which the sovereignty of states is strongly expressed and with a fundamental principle whose defense justifies the very existence of the organization?

Mr Klibi should be reminded of all this!

The exercise of sovereignty by an OAS member is not a matter for the OAU but for the member itself. The recognition of a state or the establishment of diplomatic relations between states in an individual act of sovereignty and not a collective act of law which is not even expressed anywhere in the OAU Charter itself.

Besides, within the OAU there is neither a resolution nor an injunction binding member states not to renew relations with Israel.

Under these conditions, to say that "it is an African, Afro-Arab and Third World affair," as the secretary general of the Arab League is saying, is to be naive enough to confuse the rights of states [words indistinct].

Moreover, in this affair perhaps we are the ones who are naive in thinking it is a matter of sovereign, freedom and independence.

We should have understood long ago that with such "partners," nothing like freedom or independence is possible without a total adherence to the aberrant logic which transforms a fanatic approach into a principle of law.

Zaire will, however, continue to defend its position on this point and on that point only. This brings Zaire to see the Arab noise and furor for what they are: intimidation and blackmail aimed at influencing leaders of Black Africa to dissuade them from following Zaire's example. Afro-Arab solidarity exploding into malicious intentions, violent statements and open threats against Zaire for fully exercising its inalienable right, seem quite peculiar to us and even borders on subjection.

We refuse to be impressed by the recall of diplomats, closure of embassies, severence of diplomatic relations and injunctions to the Arab Bank for African Economic Development. These will have no effect on Zaire's policies. Our position is quite clear and irreversible because it is based on principles and on an equally clear and irreversible approach. The verbal violence and threats from Arab falcons are therefore not aimed at Zaire but rather at heads of Black African states who might also be tempted to exercise their sovereign rights. In this affair, the disturbing confusion of law with a state of mind is not limited only to our sovereign decision to restore relations with Israel. They have also tried to interpret our decision to restore relations with Israel's claims on Jerusalem. On this matter, the mass media have even gone so far as to insinuate that the clarifications made by Zaire's diplomatic missions in major European and American capitals constitute a "back out" by Zaire.

A "back out" in relation to what?

The communique published on 14 May 1982 by the Executive Bureau of the MPR Central Committee meeting under the chairmanship of the head of state himself, does not mention anywhere the installation of Zaire's Embassy in Jerusalem, or even the name of the city so dear to the faithful of the three major religions of the world.

Why, then, all these stirrings and agitations? Once again a lot of noise for nothing about an imaginary problem created by ill-intentioned circles for whom every means is good for fanning the misunderstanding and sudden hostility of some Arabs against the sovereign position of Zaire and its head.

In any case, the Israelis themselves know that Zaire's embassy will be established in Tel Aviv. All the rest is only vain provocation and vulgar lies.

Then remains the amazing communique published in Tripoli by the Arab ministers of the "Steadfastness Front" calling on the Zairian people to rise up and overthrow their president.

Zaire received the publication of this communique with indignation and scorn, especially because two Africans, even though Arabs, are among the "signatories" of this odious communique which is completely contrary to the letter and spirit of the OAU Charter to which Algeria and Libya adhere.

What other reaction can there be to the attitude of Algeria and Libya? It should be noted with pain but without illusion: Their Arabness is greater than their Africanness....

But Algeria and Libya should also not have illusions: Since 24 November 1965, the only watchword which mobilizes the Zairian people is that which comes from the only source capable of stimulating them and giving them a sense of undertaking national liberation -- their leader and guide, Gen Mobutu Sese Seko, architect of their independence and guarantor of their sovereignty.

Since, in any case, Gen Mobutu Sese Seko cannot ask his people to overthrow him, the so-called hard-lined countries will then be the target of their own exhortations....

We shall conclude simply with two observations:

First of all, the Arabs who despise Zaire have chosen the wrong tactics by [words indistinct] of Africans with dangerous intentions where everything is mixed into complete confusion of priciples, facts, statements and commitments coupled with ill-will, blind fanaticism where the innate Negrophobia of Black slave traders of the past cannot help to wipe out.

The second observation is like the first and is linked to it, that is, for 15 years now, and (?in order) to strengthen relations between our country and [words indistinct] historical past with Black Africa, President Mobutu Sese Seko had deliberately canceled a certain number of chapters in the history books used in Zaire's educational system. These chapters dealt with Black slavery.

Well from now on it is going to be different since the same people, that is the Arabs, who yesterday denied the Black man the right to humanity, want to deny him his dearly-acquired freedom again, although he has freed himself from the colonialism they brought about and justified. Things about slavery and all the cruelty [words indistinct].

Zairian children who did not know about it will now learn from their textbooks that Zanzibar was a great slave market, and caravan routes passed from Kenya, through Shaba, Kindu in the Maniema....

Zaire understands the extent of the pain of some moderate Arab countries since its decision to restore relations with Israel. It repeats once again that by making this decision, Zaire did not seek to please or embarrass anybody; it is only acting according to analysis based on its independence and interests. We can not help but stess this.

GHANA

PNDC MEMBER ATIM CALLS FOR UNITY AMONG PEOPLE

AB211912 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] A member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Mr Chris Atim, has said that unity is the only condition for the success of the revolution. He therefore stressed the need for absolute unity among civilians, the police and the armed forces. Mr Chris Atim was addressing workers defense committees at Koforidua at a meeting called to patch up differences between workers and the junior ranks of police in the municipality over an alleged punishment meted out to a police woman. Mr Chris Atim asked PDC's [people's defense committees] to regard it as their primary responsibility to foster unity, which he described as the weapon for the poor against the rich.

He said the revolutionary forces should remember that there are internal and external enemies who will always try to create dissatisfaction among the people. This is because the enemies are aware that they cannot defeat the revolution at the military front alone, or just by staging a coup. Mr Chris Atim consequently asked the people not to do anything that can be exploited by the enemy. He said to overcome the present economic crisis, Ghananians have to work hard. He denied rumors that the PNDC is planning to reduce the price of cocoa. What the council is doing is to solve the problem posed by the deficit between the producer and consumer price of cocoa.

TUC LEADERSHIP TO BE 'DEMOCRATICALLY' ELECTED

AB252038 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] secretary for labor and social welfare, Mr K.K. Kwayie, is taking certain measures to ensure a speedy democratic resolution of the problems posed by struggles with the labor movement.

An official statement issued today said an interim management committee will be formed immediately to steer the affairs of the TUC [Trades Union Congress] and the 17 national unions. The committee, which will operate under an interim constitution, will organize in the shortest possible time the drawing up of new constitutions reflecting the democratic demands of workers. These constitutions should be openly debated and approved by workers at the local union levels. According to the statement, free and democratic elections at all union levels will be held under the new constitutions and an emergency congress called to elect executives of the TUC. All registered union members, including former TUC leaders and national union leaders, will be free to take part in discussions on election processes.

Since 31 December, the TUC has witnessed several upheavals generated by the demands of workers for a democratic reorganization and restructuring of the congress. It is the belief of the PNDC that the workers have a leading role to play in the revolutionary process and it is therefore essential that the TUC should exist in such a state as to enable the release of the enormous revolutionary and productive potential of its huge membership.

The statement said as part of the search to bring about a satisfactory resolution of the issues raised by the TUC upheaval, a meeting was held in Accra last Friday to discuss the situation. The meeting was attended by representatives of the PNDC led by Mr Chris Atim, a member of the council and the president of the Organization of African Trades Union Unity, OATUU.

During the discussion, the PNDC representative made clear the government's commitment to the employment of democratic procedures in the election of leaders of all the 17 national unions and the TUC and a need to hold an emergency congress to elect the executive of the TUC. The president of OATUU was informed that OATUU is free to send observers to witness these elections. The PNDC team further stated the government's commitment to keeping the offices of the TUC open for free and democratic operations of the movement. Similarly, democratically elected officers of the congress will operate freely in the interest of the workers.

MILITARY PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO WORK GOLD MINE

AB211918 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 21 may 82

[Text] Fifty military personnel from the Gonda Barracks in Accra have arrived at Tarkwa to work at the gold mine. This is in line with the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] policy to involve the military in the socioeconomic activities of the country. The soldiers will work with the miners under ground to drain the rocks and drive locomotives. An official of the state gold mining corporation told a GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation] correspondent that the arrival of the soldiers will greatly improve the manpower needs of the mines. It will be recalled that during his visit to the mine recently, the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings promised to ensure increased productivity at the mine.

TOGOLESE INTERIOR MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

AB211915 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] A Togolese delegation led by the minister of interior, Mr Lacle, arrived in Accra this morning for talks with Ghanaian officials on relations between the two countries. The delegation was met by the PNDC [Provincial National Defense Council] secretary for interior, Mr Johnny Hansen. Speaking at their first meeting at the state house, Mr Hansen said that as people of two brotherly nations, Ghanaians and Togolese should strive to live in peace and harmony and to seek the welfare of each other. They should also seek to encourage healthy economic relations between them.

Mr Hansen stressed the need to avoid sensational press reports of issues such as border incidents, and to check any possible subversive activities of the self-imposed exiles. He hoped the two countries will be able to finalize arrangements on how to ensure peace and safety at their common border. The PNDC secretary noted that President Eyadema of Togo has been very instrumental in creating conditions favorable for bringing about cordial relations not only between the two countries but in the whole of West Africa. He added that it is the duty of Ghana and Togo to be each other's keeper to enable them to achieve something worthwhile for Africa.

Replying, Mr Lacle said the peoples of the two countries are one people who are destined to live together in love and unity. They have the common responsibility of ensuring the development of their people. Mr Lacle said Togo respects Ghana's revolution and would do nothing to subvert it. Togo, he added, will not allow anybody to use her territory to subvert Ghana's progress. Mr Lacle said Togo will welcome refugees on condition that they abide by her laws. He said his country wants to demonstrate to the whole world that it cherishes peace and hoped that at the end of their discussions there will be a lot of cooperation between the two countries.

TIMES Hails Togo Pledge

AB220844 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 May 82

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The GHANAIAN TIMES welcomes the assurance by the Togolese minister of the interior that his government will never allow Togo to be used as a base of subversion and mercenary activities against Ghana. The minister gave the assurance when he led a delegation to Accra for talks with Ghanaian officials on relations between the two countries.

The paper says Togo's stand is reassuring because Togo's head of state has been the subject of attack by mercenaries hired by detractors of African freedom and independence. The TIMES refers to the numerous attempts on the life of the Togolese leader and says despite all these, he still has a big heart and is following a policy of reconciliation. Even some past Ghanaian leaders who attacked the Togolese leader when they were in power are now in exile in that country and are being well treated.

The TIMES, however, is happy that the Togolese leader is determined not to compromise on the question of mercenaries. It recalls that these soldiers of fortune have been used against the progressive governments of Benin and Guinea. The paper says Ghana is engaged in a revolution aimed at establishing social justice and regaining Ghana's stand behind the drive toward Africa's complete decolonization and full economic liberation from the forces of exploitation. In this process says the TIMES, Ghana seeks the friendship and understanding of all, especially her immediate neighbors.

The TIMES says the bonds of friendship that bind the peoples of Ghana and Togo may be ruffled but they can never be broken. Anyone who tries to put one against the other would be hitting his head against the stonewall of history. In this connection, the TIMES hails the Togolese mission of solidarity to Ghana, and hopes the friendship between the two countries would grow from strength to strength.

IRANIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION ARRIVES 24 MAY

AB240840 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] A seven-member Iranian Government delegation arrived in Accra yesterday for a 3-day official visit. Speaking to reporters at the airport, the leader of the delegation, Mr Lavasani, said his delegation will hold talks with the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] on bilateral relations between Ghana and Iran. He said the delegation will discuss increased trade relations between the two countries.

The visit will also afford the delegation an opportunity to explain the situation in the Persian Gulf, particularly the Iran-Iraq war, and the delegation will discuss the forthcoming session of the nonaligned conference due to be held in Baghdad, Iraq. It will call on the chairman of the PNDC, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings.

FRENCH COMPANY TO UNDERTAKE JOINT VENTURES

AB240945 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Ghana has reached agreement with a French company, Interagra, [expansion unknown] to undertake joint ventures in agriculture, land and mineral development, transport and communications and industries. This was disclosed at a joint news conference in Accra yesterday by the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Botwe, and the company's president and director general, Mr Jean-Baptiste (Dumer).

Under the agreement, the company will arrange a credit of between $10 and $12 million for the establishment of an integrated poultry project in the country. Interagra will bear 80 percent of the estimated cost of the project while Ghana bears the remaining 20 percent. It will also assist Ghana to rehabilitate and maintain existing food silos as well as constructing new ones.

On transport and communications, the company has agreed to arrange credits for the procurement of spare parts to rehabilitate broken down vehicles. It will send experts to give technical advice on Black Star Line vessels now lying idle at Tema and (Haven North) in Britain. Interagra will help liquidate Ghana's outstanding debts of $52 million in respect of four vessels built for her by South Korea.

The agreement allows the company to provide the capital for the rehabilitation and expansion of gold mines as well as conducting feasibility studies on other mines. As regards fishing, Interagra and the State Fishing Corporation will enter into joint ventures under which the company will explore the possibility of arranging finance for the payment of some outstanding debts for tuna vessles already bought. It will help rehabilitate coldstores and install new ones. Interagra will inject capital and technical assistance into state-owned timber companies in the country.

Dr Botwe explained that the agreement will cover priority areas set out by the PNDC to review the economy and will utilize in most cases local raw materials. He said the agreements were entered into in good faith and the parasites in the system will not be allowed to exploit them for their selfish ends. Dr Botwe observed that in the past, individuals had benefited from such joint ventures to the detriment of the state. He said the only way Ghanaians can prevent this is to be vigilant in monitoring them. He urged Ghanainans not to condone irregularities in such matters.

Dr Botwe further announced that the French Government has lifted the embargo placed on Ghana since the period of the Limann administration. Following the lifting of the ban, French banks and commercial institutions can now transact business in Ghana.

The director general of Interagra, (Mr Dumer), advised Ghanaians to discard the mentality that the white man is more clever than the black. He noted that if all the gold, cocoa, timber and minerals in Africa could be rationally used, African countries would not look up to anybody for assistance. Interagra operates joint ventures in agriculture and industry with eight African countries, including Algeria, Libya, Zimbabwe and Nigeria.

CULTURE SECRETARY AT USSR EXHIBITION OPENING

AE210945 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] secretary for culture and tourism, Asiedu Yirenkyi, has observed that the revolution and its policies are anti-imperialist in nature. The PNDC will therefore count on the genuine support of progressive forces the world over for its consolidation and for true national independence, democracy, social progress and peace. Asiedu Yirenkyi made these observations at the opening of an exhibition in Accra to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the USSR with particular reference to the Republic of Ukraine. It was organized by the Soviet Cultural Center and the Ghana-USSR Friendship Association.

Asiedu Yirenkyi noted that frequent reports of harassment of people's defense committees by the supporters of the old order shows that they have only been temporarily defeated and not ousted. In all these, he said, the experiences of similar countries must serve as shining examples which should be translated to suit local conditions. Asiedu Yirenkyi announced that Ghana will soon conclude a cultural agreement with the Soviet Union. He did not however, elaborate.

Touching on the experiences of the Ukrainians, Asiedu Yirenkyi said they have achieved progress through dedication, hard work and a clear sense of political direction. He therefore stressed the need for hard work as a prerequisite for the development of the country.

GUINEA

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH MANILA

AB251355 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] In order to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between their peoples and promote fruitful cooperation in respecting sovereignty and the UN charter, the Governments of the Republic of Philippines and the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

LIBERIA

SENIOR PRC MEMBER SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY

AB251920 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Col Larry Borteh, a senior member of the People's Redemption Council [PRC] has been suspended indefinitely from the council by Commander in Chief Samuel K. Doe. The head of state said his decision is based upon repeated misrepresentations made by him, Colonel Borteh, on a number of issues. He said the colonel has also been guilty of acts unbecoming of a senior member of the council. Meanwhile, Colonel Borteh has been ordered to turn over all government properties to the cochairman upon the receipt of this directive.

BEYE SPEAKS ON W. SAHARA, OAU, CHAD, ISRAEL

AB251547 Paris AFP in French 1451 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Bamako, 25 May (AFP) -- Malian Foreign Minister Alioune Blodin Beye stated on Monday that the Western Sahara crisis -- resulting from an incomplete decolonization process -- must be solved on the basis of OAU resolutions.

In a statement on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the OAU, Mr Beye added that "the Western Sahara conflict is also disturbing the people and leaders of Mali, because the crisis is within our subregion and brotherly people are involved." "Dialogue between the parties involved is an indispensable condition for achieving a just and peaceful solution to this issue," he added.

Mr Beye also called for a spirit of tolerance so that "the crisis that followed the admission of the SDAR into the OAU does not endanger the existence of our organization."

Concerning the Chadian conflict, Mr Beye stated: "The OAU must do everything possible to safeguard the unity and the territorial integrity of Chad by giving the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] -- the legitimate authority -- the means to ensure security and the maintenance of peace, with a view to setting up democratically established lawful institutions."

The Malian foreign minister also renewed his country's support for SWAPO which is fighting for Namibia's independence, and condemned apartheid and Zionism. He called for the "strengthening of Arab-African solidarity," in the face of the "Pretoria-Tel Aviv axis."

Finally, Mr Beye recalled that Israel's policy has not changed since the OAU made the decision to severe relations, adding that it is out of the question for his country to resume relations with the Jewish state.

NIGERIA

GAZETTE PUBLICATION MAKES OJUKWU PARDON LEGAL

AB251728 Lagos NAN in English 1720 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Lagos, 25 May (NAN) -- An extra-ordinary Gazette No. 24 has been published in Lagos giving legal backing to the pardon granted Mr. Chukwuemeka Odumegwu-Djukwu.

Dated May 21, 1982, the Gazette notice amends that of No. 63 of Jan. 18, 1979.

It also revokes the taint of criminality given to Mr. Ojukwu's image by the wanted fugitive offenders notice issued by the Nigerian police force in January, 1979.

Accordingly, the new Gazette notice notifies the public that the entry relating to Mr. Ojukwu "shall be deleted from the list contained in government notice No. 63 published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria Official Gazette No. 3, volume 66 of Jan. 18, 1979 and in any newspaper or other publication whatsoever containing any notice or advertisement in similar or like items to the said government notice."

SOVIET DELEGATION ARRIVES TO INSPECT PROJECT

AB252203 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] A Soviet delegation has arrived in the country to assess the progress of work at the Ajaokuta steel complex in Kwara State. Receiving the delegation in Lagos today, the minister for steel development, Malam Mama Ali Makele, said that the Federal Government was committed to the rapid development of the steel project. He remarked that the present administration will do its best to meet its obligations as to the contract.

Malam Makele expressed satisfaction with the pace of work at the steel site and explained that some problems facing the project, such as import licences, housing as well as training facilities for staff, were being looked into.

TOGO

EYADEMA RECEIVES EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY

AB252056 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] Gen Gnassigbe Eyadema, the founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally, RPT, received this morning in audience at the presidential palace a special envoy from President Husni Mubarak of Egypt in the person of Adm Mohamad (Moksada as-Saoul), a naval commander. Admiral (as-Saoul) was escorted by Col (Mawussi Divi), the second in command in the Togolese Armed Forces.

At the end of the audience, President Mubarak's envoy told the press that his visit to Lome was aimed at strengthening cooperation between the Togolese and Egyptian Armed Forces on one hand and between the Togolese and Egyptian peoples on the other.

ANGOLA

GABONESE PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN LUANDA 25 MAY

AB251508 Luanda ANGOP in French 1348 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Luanda, 25 May (ANGOP) -- At the invitation of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the Gabonese Republic, Omar Bongo, arrived in Luanda this morning. He is on a friendly and working visit scheduled to last a few hours.

President Bongo is accompanied on his trip by an important delegation comprising, most notably, Martin Bongo, minister of state for foreign affairs; Toutoume, minister of civil aviation and special adviser to President Omar Bongo; and Essongue, director of the presidential Cabinet.

On arrival, the Gabonese president was greeted at the bottom of the boarding ramp by his Angolan counterpart, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who was encompased by Alexandre Rodrigues Tito, Nkasa and Ndombele Bernado, respectively the Angolan minister of interior, the Gabonese ambassador to Angola and Angola's ambassador to Gabon.

After the ceremony is the first made by a Gabonese head of state to Angola and is in reciprocity for a similar visit by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to Libreville last December at the time of the holding of the economic summit of Central African states. [sentence as received]

The itinerary for his visit calls for the laying of a wreath shortly after his arrival at the monument to the first president of the People's Republic of Angola and father of the Angolan revolution, Dr Agostinho Neto. Following this talks will be held between the two parties.

It should be pointed out that the visit of the Gabonese statesman to the People's Republic of Angola was preceeded by the visit to the Angolan capital by a delegation of Gabonese experts which has been here since Friday and is lead by Simon Bula Matari, the secretary general at the presidency charged with commercial relations. This delegation was to make preparations with Angolan authorities for the presidential visit.

Talks Begin

EA251840 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpts] President Omar Bongo of Gabon arrived in Luanda this morning for a brief working and friendly visit to the People's Republic of Angola at the invitation of Angolan head of state Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. For more details on the visit of the Gabonese head of state, our reporter who is at Futungo de Belas [presidential palace], has this to say:

[Reporter] Good afternoon. This is a reporter of Radio Nacional de Angola. As I am talking, the presidents of the People's Republic of Angola, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and of the Republic of Gabon, His Excellency Omar Bongo, are meeting, while their two delegations are holding a separate meeting at government level.

The Angolan delegation led by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos includes Comrades Col (Dino Matroce), member of the Political Bureau and minister of state security, Lt Col Alexandre Rodrigues Tito, member of the Political Bureau and minister of the interior; Paulo Teixeira Jorge, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister; Fernando Faustino Muteka, minister of transport; Paulino Pinto Joao, state secretary for cooperation; and senior officials at the Presidency of the republic.

The Gabonese delegation includes Martin Bongo, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation; Jean Francois Ntoutoume, minister counselor to the president for civil and commercial aviation; (Jacques Ovono Midou), counselor for African and international affairs; and other senior officials of the Presidency of the Gabonese Republic.

At approximately 1130 the two delegations began their first round of official talks. Addressing the guests, Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos expressed happiness at seeing President Omar Bongo in Agostinho Neto's country on Africa Liberation Day.

Many African countries helped Angola to take its due place within the OAU. We are happy with the gesture made by President Omar Bongo to our independence and his solidarity with the MPLA and the Angolan people, a gesture which will remain in the annals of our history, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said. He added that we are living through South African attacks. That country not only attacks us directly but it also uses puppet Angolans whom it trains, arms and transports to attack inhabitants of southern Angola.

At this moment of struggle Angola needs the solidarity of other African peoples. Our struggle is a struggle of all African peoples. We cannot betray the cause of Africa's liberation. This is why we support the struggle of the SWAPO fighters so that they may be granted the right to independence for Namibia based on UN Resolution No 435.

Within the continental organization we want to make our contribution to all African problems, economic, social or political, the head of state added. Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos ended by saying that the Gabonese visit is a response to the need to bring together the Angolan and Gabonese Governments in the struggle to consolidate our independence and strengthen peace and stability.

In reply his excellency the president of Gabon expressed gratitude for the Angolan hospitality. President Omar Bongo later said he regretted having been unable to visit our country when the late President Agostinho Neto was alive. He said his visit, although brief, is of great significance. It will dispel the idea that Gabon is playing the game of colonialists, he stressed.

President Bongo added: No African can remain indifferent to the situation prevailing in Angola, the struggle the Angolan people are waging against the racists. President Omar Bongo said that although there are differences between them, Angola and Gabon are two African countries which can cooperate and demonstrate mutual solidarity.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON VISIT BY CPCZ DELEGATION

EA202046 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 20 May 82

[Joint communique issued on 20 May in Luanda on Czechoslovak Communist Party delegation's visit]

[Text] At the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party, an official delegation from the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] led by Comrade Vasil Bilak, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, visited the People's Republic of Angola from 17 to 19 May 1982.

The delegation was received by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, to whom it delivered a personal message from Comrade Gustav Husak, secretary general of the CPCZ. The delegation paid deep homage to the memory of the immortal guide of the Angolan revolution, the late Comrade President Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto, and laid a wreath at his tomb.

Official talks between the two delegations were led by Comrades Lucio Lara, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the MPLA-Labour Party Central Committee and by Vasil Bilak, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee.

The following comrades took party in the talks on the Angolan side: Afonso van Dunen Mbinda, member of the MPLA-Labour Party Central Committee and Central Committee secretary for external relations; Lt Col Paiva Domingos da Silva, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, deputy defense minister and general commander of the people's defense organization; Antonio Sebastiao (Lenga), director of the Department of External Relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee; Cristiano Neto, executive member of the Luanda Province Party Committee; Pedro Fernando (Mavuva), head of the European desk in the Department of External Relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee.

On the Czechoslovak side, the following took part in the talks: Miroslav Novak, chief of the main staff of the people's militia; (Rudolf Doravak), head of the Foreign Policy Department of the CPCZ Central Committee; (Manel Notsny), adviser in the Department of External Relations of the CPCZ Central Committee; Milos Vesely, ambassador of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the People's Republic of Angola.

The meetings took place in a spirit of complete cordiality and frank comradeship [word indistinct] the close ties of friendship and solidarity which have always united the two parties and (?peoples) in common struggle against international imperialism and for achieving the aspirations [word indistinct] of humanity for peace and social progress.

Reviewing the international situation, the two parties expressed their great concern over the continued deterioration and threat to world peace [words indistinct] by people all over the world [words indistinct] imperialist powers headed by the present U.S. administration which persists in the reactionary policy of interfering in the internal affairs of independent and sovereign states. This policy leads to the proliferation of hotbeds of tension in various regions and an increase in the arms race.

On the situation in Europe, the two parties strongly condemned the efforts by Western powers, namely, the Pentagon and the NATO (?aggressive pact) to [words indistinct] (?strategic) missiles in Europe, which (?threatens) peace on this continent and the world over. In this context, they supported the countless proposals for peace and detente launched by CPSU Secretary General Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress [words indistinct] at world level.

The two parties reaffirmed their strong support for the people of Poland and hailed the decisive measures taken by the present Polish leadership to reestablish the leading role of the PZPR [Polish United Workers Party] and to forestall the activities of the counter-revolutionary forces, to build the economy and to consolidate existing socialist gains. They strongly condemned all attempts at imperialist interference in the internal affairs of the Polish people.

The two parties spoke about their concern for the situation in the African Continent, in the south of which imperialism, through the racist regime of South Africa, carries out the most desperate attempts to destabilize the progressive countries and to halt the impetus of the liberation struggle in this region of Africa.

In this context, the two parties strongly condemned the persistent illegal occupation of Namibian territory and the dilatory maneuvers of the contact group and Western countries aimed at retarding a rapid solution to the problem of Namibia's independence based on UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978.

The two parties hailed the victories achieved by the Namibian people under the leadership of their legitimate and sole representative, SWAPO, and supported its proposal for holding another Geneva-type conference.

The two parties expressed their concern over conflicts prevailing on the African Continent. The two delegations called for a peaceful solution to the (?problem of Chad) and at the same time condemned the maneuvers of world imperialism to disturb the country's national unity.

Reviewing the situation in the Middle East, both parties noted the danger the Zionist Israeli regime represents to peace in the region and expressed their support for and solidarity with the just struggle of the Palestinian people led by the PLO and their right to create an independent and sovereign state. They condemned (?out of hand) the Camp David accords as a betrayal of the Arab cause, the Zionist annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan Heights and Israel's expansionist and aggressive policy toward other countries in the region.

The two delegations hailed the victories achieved by the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the struggle against imperialism and international reaction and at the same time expressed their (?indignation) following continued imperialist interference in the internal affairs of free and sovereign states. Despite U.S. imperialism's countless attempts to divide the Nonaligned Movement, both parties called for a peaceful solution to the conflict between two member states of the movement, that is, Iran and Iraq, on the basis of the movement's principles.

The two parties expressed their conviction that the forthcoming summit of the Nonaligned Movement will be a further step in strengthening the unity [word indistinct] of the member-states in the anti-imperialist struggle for [word indistinct] peace, progress and social justice of peoples.

The two parties expressed the need for the restructuring of international economic relations and the establishment of a new, more just and [word indistinct] international economic order. Both delegations strongly condemned [words indistinct] U.S. imperialism against the Republic of Cuba as well as attempts at interference in the internal affairs of Nicaragua [words indistinct]. The two parties also expressed their unconditional support for and solidarity with the struggle of the people of El Salvador led by the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation against the fascist military junta and condemned all forms of U.S. intervention in El Salvador.

Regarding the Asian Continent, the two parties condemned all forms of imperialist interference in the internal affairs of the peoples of the region and hailed the efforts being made by the peoples of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, aimed at transforming [words indistinct] into a zone of peace (?and cooperation).

(?During its stay in Angola), the CPCZ delegation visited socioeconomic sectors in the Province of Luanda and noted the enormous achievements of the Angolan people under the firm leadership of the MPLA-Labor Party in creating (?technical and material wealth) and in building socialism in the People's Republic of Angola. (?The Czechoslovak delegation) expressed satisfaction with the gains the Angolan people achieved in the [word indistinct], namely, in the political, economic and social fields.

The delegation expressed appreciation for the positive role of the People's Republic of Angola in the (?promotion) [words indistinct] for its firm support for the struggle of the oppressed people in southern Africa, namely, the peoples of Namibia and South Africa. [Words indistinct] the continued acts of aggression by the racist regime of South Africa against the territorial integrity, during its visit to the People's Republic of Angola. It expressed its satisfaction with the firm stand of the Frontline states as a strong rearguard for the liberation struggle of the peoples still oppressed in southern Africa.

The Angolan side (?noted the progress) made by the Czechoslovak people under the leadership of the CPCZ in building an advanced socialist (?state) in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The two parties noted with satisfaction that the common [words indistinct] of Marxism-Leninism and the principles of proletarian internationalism [words indistinct] MPLA-Labor Party and the CPCZ: the relations of fraternal friendship and cooperation binding the two parties and peoples since the difficult period of the liberation struggle of the Angolan people against the Portuguese fascist and colonial yoke [words indistinct].

The two parties were happy to report that the mutual cooperation agreement signed last year in Prague is being implemented successfully.

The two delegations noted the implementation so far of the treaty of friendship and cooperation signed in Prague on 12 October, 1981, by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola, and Comrade Gustav Husak, secretary general of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The two delegations noted unequivocally that this visit is an important contribution to strengthening the traditional ties of friendship that have always united the two parties and peoples. The CPCZ delegation expressed its profound gratitude to the MPLA-Labor Party for the fraternal and cordial reception it enjoyed during its stay in the Peoples Republic of Angola.

The CPCZ delegation invited a MPLA-Labor Party delegation soon to visit the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the invitation was gratefully accepted.

LESOTHO

SIX SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR HIGH TREASON

MB251117 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 24 May 82

[Excerpts] Six young men were sentenced to 10 years imprisonment each for high treason by Mr Justice F.X. Roonie sitting with two assessors in the Lesotho high court in Maseru this morning. The judge suspended 4 years of the sentence for 3 years on condition that the men are not found guilty of similar offenses during the period of suspension.

They are: (Motlehelwa Mwine), aged 22; (Zakariah Matlatsa), aged 23; (Lerato Komoto), aged 25; (Alifetilwi Mataba), aged 23; (Joseph Pule), aged 20; and (Malikhwane Mwine), aged 25. The mother of two of the convicted men, (Mme Mamuhapi Mwine), was found not guilty and discharged at the start of the trial after the crown had decided not to bring any evidence against her.

The court found that the men had conspired together and with other persons in Maseru, (Tiatianing), (Leribe), and at the free state towns of (Bethlehem), (Odendaalsrus) over the period from January 1978 to October last year to overthrow the Government of Lesotho by force as members of the National Liberation Front.

The court was told that the convicted men were former students of the (Mamato) secondary school at (Tiatianing) and some were recruited into the organization while they were still at school.

The offenses for which the men have been sentenced are the placing of time-bombs at the Lesotho Hilton, Holiday Inn and Lancers Inn in Maseru, Leabua Jonathan Airport, the U.S. Cultural Center, a restaurant in (Apatamayi), a court building in the (Titianing) area and a supermarket and butchery in (Tiatianing).

Exhibits handed in by the Crown during the trial included two AK-47 rifles, [words indistinct] rounds of ammunition, one pistol, one revolver and a quantity of hand grenades and (?timed) devices.

MOZAMBIQUE

MILITARY AGREEMENT WITH PORTUGAL DEFENDED

WA251000 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 3 May 82 p 1

[Mario Ferro article: "Defend the Revolution"]

[Text] When the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique last week signed a military agreement with Portugal -- the first of its kind with a Western country -- many people asked (some even in a rude, impertinent, arrogant and meddlesome way) the reason for the step taken by this young African socialist country.

On that day, an acquaintance of mine, a foreigner with whom I talk from time to time, came up to me. It actually could have been anyone else, who wanted to ask me, more or less diplomatically, about the "just concern" over the agreement now signed with the former colonizers...

"When I read the paper today," my acquaintance told me, "I could not believe my eyes, reading about a military agreement with Portugal. Besides everything else, most important to us is that Portugal is a member of NATO."

What seems to be the problem? Are Mozambicans betraying their Marxist-Leninist principles, their statements of friendship, their manifestations of a revolutionary anti-imperialist spirit in signing a military agreement with a Western nation, the former colonizing power, a member of NATO? Could it be that the People's Republic of Mozambique has become less socialist than it used to be?

Anyone who draws the wrong conclusions on the basis of incomplete and weak analyses is committing a serious error. This is the case with my acquaintance and, certainly, with everyone who has decided to perceive, in this agreement, a deviation or a renunciation of the homeland's march toward socialism, this homeland that Mozambicans freed from Portuguese colonialism with arms that came from many sources, including factories in Western countries.

Today, the war has not ended. While independent, the Mozambicans' homeland is facing imperialist aggression on many fronts: the economic blockade; the nondeclared war the Pretoria nazi-fascist regime has unleashed, infiltrating into the national territory armed gangs that commit all sorts of atrocities.

Mozambicans are still defending their country, just as they did in the past. Lenin wrote, once upon a time, that a revolution will triumph if it knows how to defend itself. It doesn't matter with what weapons.

NAMIBIA

PETER KALANGULA HEADS NEW POLITICAL PARTY

LD251238 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] A new political party has been formed in South-West Africa/Namibia and is expected to draw its support from the former supporters of the National Democratic Party. The party, to be known as the Christian Democratic Action for Social Justice, is headed by Mr Peter Kalangula, who withdrew from his post as president of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance. Addressing a news conference in Windhoek, Mr Kalangula said the Ovambo people were tired of the ethnic divisions within the country and the new party was formed with the aim of uniting the people.